

The Scoop - Volume 2; Number 20 December 1, 2006

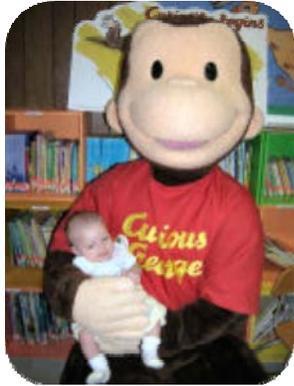


Published bi-weekly by [Read to Me](#), a service of the Idaho Commission for Libraries

In this Issue:

- [Welcome!](#)
- [Meet Beverly Barnes](#)
- [Library to Library](#)
- [Young Adult Corner](#)
- [Book Look](#)
- [Upcoming Events](#)
- [Summer Reading News](#)
- [School Zone](#)
- [Know the Numbers](#)
- [A Closer Look at Emerging Trends in Youth Services](#)
- [Tips & Tools](#)
- [News Beyond Idaho](#)

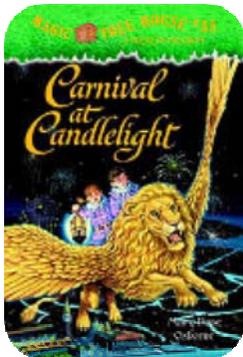
Welcome



We're officially declaring the 2006 Idaho Family Reading Week to be the most successful one yet! Be sure to read some of the great stories sent in by librarians across the state in the "Library to Library" section. It makes us worry a little that we won't be able to top it next year, so be sure to send any ideas you have for the 2007 celebration while they're still fresh in your mind to [Peggy](#) or [Stephanie](#). Thanks for sharing your stories and photos. The photo at the left shows Curious George and the youngest library patron to attend the Family Reading Night event at the **Eastern Owyhee County District Library**.

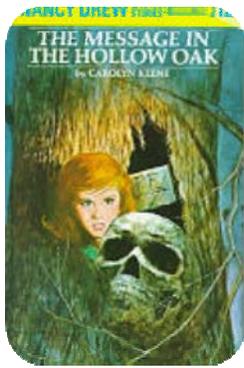
Meet Beverly Barnes

Recently students at **Ririe Elementary School** went batty. Don't worry. No children actually lost their minds. Instead the inventive **Ririe school librarian, Beverly Barnes**, borrowed a trunk full of information on bats as well as a few preserved specimens from the Pocatello Zoo for a program showcasing the many important aspects of the furry little creatures. Her program should create a definite "cool" factor in the eyes of the 225 K-4 grade children Beverly serves. She contends, however, that, "... it's going to be a bigger challenge to convince the girls than the boys."



Ririe Elementary may be small, but Beverly has a well rounded offering of youth services including storytimes and teaching library use skills. It's a one-person library where Beverly plays all the roles from buying books, tests, and supplies to being in charge of the Accelerated Reader program.

Beverly wasn't initially attracted to children/youth library services. In fact, as she puts it, "I was just assigned to this position four years ago." She now says, "Working with these students and seeing them grow to love reading is wonderful!" Both her biggest challenge and biggest success comes from the same source. The challenge is finding the right books for her reluctant readers. Seeing them truly excited about a book for the very first time provides the major success. She lists Mary Pope Osborne as one of her favorite authors because the author's *Magic Tree House* series books aren't long enough to discourage slower readers while using elements of adventure and mystery to keep children interested.



Apparently Beverly has always been a mystery fan from Nancy Drew stories in her younger years to contemporary mystery authors and police dramas. When not working in the library, Beverly tries to spend time with her four children, go out with her friends, or just relax.

Library to Library

Curiosity is alive and well in Kuna!

The **Kuna Library District** hosted 525 people for their Family Reading Night! Library Director **Anne Hankins** handled the crowd, which was much larger than expected, by having two performances as well as doing some picture taking with Curious George in the lobby! The photo at left shows Anne Hankins (left) and Administrative Assistant **Lorna Thorne** (to the right of Curious George) with Lorna's granddaughter Haylie Torrey. The trio attended the proclamation signing at the Governor's Office the day before their big event.



"Everyone was very patient. Thank goodness!" Anne said. Current and former board members, as well as Friends of the Library members, went through 14 gallons of ice cream and huge quantities of bananas making banana splits for everyone. Special guests included the mayor of Kuna, as well as a representative from the Governor's office. "My board was in tears because they were so grateful the community would be behind such an event."

Ann reports the library issued 50 brand new library cards during the week. "Curious George was busy getting hugs all week. He attended 15 programs at the library from Monday through Thursday," she said.

The Kuna Library staff performed special Curious George songs for the event and their library programs. "We had so much fun! I can't get that song out of my head. The staff is already forming a 'Jingle Bell Chorus' to perform when Santa comes in December. I am regrouping my thoughts on crowd control, however. Maybe we'll offer special programs two different times or on a Saturday," she said.



Eastern Owyhee County District Library Director **Kathy Chick** sent some great photos of their event. "About 80 people showed up -- most of them children. We had crafts, games, banana splits, and banana bread. Stories were read and we watched a clip from the movie. Everyone loved Curious George," Kathy said. We loved the photo of the baby (above) and the one on the left with the dad and his children. Thanks Kathy!





Heidi Arzola, youth services librarian at the **Portneuf District Library**, said, "Our Family Night during Idaho Family Reading Week was a huge success. We had over 100 families attend!" Heidi said they partnered with Success by 6, Family Services Alliance and the Family Resource Center. "We had activity stations, stories with Curious George and banana treats. We gave away a book to each family who attended and gave away over 100 books! We figure nearly 300 people came by the library that night to help celebrate Family Night. Curious George was a huge hit. We also took George to five Head Start and Kindergarten classrooms and shared Curious George with two local elementary schools that celebrated with their literacy events. What great fun. We don't want Curious George to leave!"



Heather Stout, Community/Youth Services Librarian at **Lewiston City Library** (pictured here with George), sent some great photos and this report: "For several years now, Lewiston City Library, as a member of the Lewis Clark Coalition for Families and Youth, has participated in the annual 'Winter Spirit' lighting of trees in Locomotive Park. It is quite an undertaking, as

volunteers string lights for four weekends prior to the event. Entertainment is provided by local singing and dancing groups and when it gets really dark, the Director of the Chamber of Commerce throws the switch and the entire park is illuminated. It is really awesome to see!! Also, that night (Nov 16) the Coalition provides wooden stars for children and families to decorate and they are hung up in the trees for the duration of the holidays." The photo at the right shows a dad and his daughter decorating a star for the tree. "Although we do not charge families, donations of food for the YWCA and books for Operation Wish Book are encouraged. This year we took Curious George to the event and everyone LOVED him," Heather said.



Katie Crill, director of the **West Bonner Library District**, also shared photos of their event. "What a blast we had! The East Bonner Library shared George with us so we had our event last Saturday, with George riding on a fire truck, sirens blaring. Curious George stories with special guest readers (see the chief in the photo at the left), crafts, lots of prize drawings (including

blow up monkeys that decorated the library all week and the biggie...a Curious George DVD) andbanana splits. The kids loved it, and we got tons of good feedback. Tonight I am headed to the Blanchard branch to read Curious George stories, draw prizes and serve banana splits for a Family Reading Night. No big monkey tonight, but the kids at both our elementary schools got a surprise visit from George at their recesses on Monday before he had to leave for Sandpoint," Katie said.





Diane Newcomer, branch manager of the **Clark Fork Branch of the East Bonner County County Free Library District** said Curious George made a visit to the kindergarten and first grade at the Hope School, then he went on to see the kids at the preschool, with brief stops between to get out of the head and cool off! "At 1 p.m. he was at the Clark Fork library for storytime. The best part of that was Kobe, age 4 and a very avid Curious George fan, didn't notice that his mother was not in the library (she works here). Gee, I wonder where she was?" Diane said.



Melody Sky Eisler (pictured to the left of George), Youth Services/Outreach Coordinator at the **Garden City Library**, said they had around 400 people attend their event! "We had a banana split party and the man with the yellow hat joined Curious George."



The **Ada Community Library and Star Branch Library** posted photos on the library's Flickr account at <http://www.flickr.com/photos/adalib/>. "The Curious George events were a big hit at both our libraries," Dylan Baker said. Click to see some great photos!

More photos and stories are welcome. Free books will be sent to all the libraries mentioned above as a thanks for sharing!



Young Adult Corner

In November 2006, 15 Idaho library staff members (pictured at the left) successfully completed a class to learn how teens' use of technology to play, learn, and create improves their text-based literacy skills. This group met in Boise on September 28 and got together again after the online portion of the course was done.

The Idaho Commission for Libraries (ICFL) partnered with the Young Adult Library Services Association (YALSA) to offer this training. Participants learned more about how teens use technology to communicate, collaborate, and create and have become more familiar with the tools and techniques teens use.



To listen to a podcast that summarizes the participants' experiences and their plans for how they to use this information in their libraries, visit <http://libraries.idaho.gov/teens-and-tech>. The link to the podcast is in the middle of the web page and is about 30 minutes long. It provides a great summary of what everyone got out of the class. It is also ICFL's first podcast, and we'd love to hear what you think of it! The picture at the right shows participant **Lynn Silva** (left) from the **Boundary County District Library** recording her part of the podcast with Stephanie Bailey-White.

One of the first things accomplished at the face to face meeting was to set up Instant Messaging accounts at www.meebo.com. ICFL's Project Coordinator Stephanie Bailey-White said this was a quick and easy way for participants in Idaho to talk with each other and get more comfortable using the tools teens use every day.



Setting up [MySpace](#) accounts and exploring other social software tools like [Flickr](#), [LibraryThing](#), and Wikis provided hands-on practice with the tools. Dylan Baker, from the Ada Community Library, attended the last face-to-face meeting in Boise to provided additional hands-on help on new technologies and showed off some new gadgets that digital natives are using. The photo at the left shows Dylan (in the middle) surrounded by librarians soaking up more information.

"I enjoyed the chance to share with other library staff in Idaho and around the country," participant Marcy Rowe from the Boise Basin District Library said. Rowe said she's been surprised at how much problem-solving and reading most of the online tasks take. "I realized that these kids are pretty darned smart. When we see them on the computers it isn't really down time, they are using so many skills."

Book Look

Amanda Pittman, Idaho's Young Reader's Choice Award (YRCA) representative, sent this request to all youth services and school librarians:

Now is a great time of year to promote the Pacific Northwest Library Association's Young Reader's Choice Award! Students must have read at least three titles from the list of nominees to be able to vote. Voting takes place from March 15th through April 1st so now is a good time to get kids excited about participating. Only students in 4th through 12th grades in the Pacific Northwest are eligible to vote. Teacher and librarian resources, a list of the 2007 nominees and more information is all available at <http://www.pnla.org/yrca/index.htm>.

Also, now is a good time to be thinking about what books you would like to nominate for the 2008 YRCA Award. Nominations are accepted from teachers, librarians, parents and children who live in the Pacific Northwest. Nominations are due by February 1st each year and should be sent directly to the YRCA Chair Barbra Meisenheimer, at bmeisenheimer@fvrl.org. Nominated titles must have been published three years prior to the award year (the 2008 list nominees must have a 2005 copyright date). Please include: * title * author * copyright date * division where you feel the title is most appropriate -- Junior Division: Grades 4-6 -- Middle Division: Grades 7-9 -- Senior Division: Grades 10-12

Please feel free to contact me with any questions you may have. Thanks!

Amanda Pittman Idaho YRCA Representative / Manager of Youth Services, Ada Community Library 10664 W. Victory Rd Boise ID 83706 208-362-0181 ext 2.



To celebrate the arrival of the holidays, the folks at www.kidsreads.com have assembled a **list of books** guaranteed to get you into the spirit of the season. Among the books on the list -- a detailed and lavishly illustrated history of Jolly Saint Nick, three different versions of the classic poem "The Night Before Christmas," a brand-new Curious George adventure with a Yuletide theme, titles that focus on Hanukkah and the traditions associated with the Festival of Lights, and two magnificent pop-up books from legendary paper engineer Robert Sabuda. Enjoy!

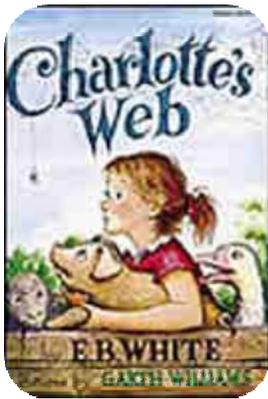


Send Stephanie or Peggy a review for *The Scoop*, and we'll send you a brand new hardback book for your library.



Upcoming Events

Break a World Reading Record with Charlotte's Web



On **Wednesday, December 13, 2006, at noon (EST)**, join students, educators, librarians and fans of Charlotte's Web who will read passages from E.B. White's classic tale of friendship, kindness, selfless giving and miracles. "Break a World Reading Record with Charlotte's Web" will introduce this wonderful story to a new generation and reintroduce the story to fans who haven't read it since childhood.

Go to www.charlotteswebbarr.com/ to find out how to participate. Also available online are detailed instructions, a Charlotte's Web reading record event guide, reproducible activity sheets, registration forms, an Educator Guide, coloring sheets, fun activities and an online database with comprehensive information and tips to join this national attempt! Charlotte's Web opens in theaters nationwide on December 20, 2006.

January Events:

January is **National Eye Care Month**. The National Eye Institute, part of the National Institutes on Health, provides educational packets for a unique science program called VISION, intended for use in the classroom by teachers and/or guest speakers. Find more information about this program at:
www.nei.nih.gov/education/visionschool/index.asp

January is also **National Hobby Month**. Enjoy reading as a hobby! Beat the winter blahs this month by cultivating a new hobby or family activity. Whether its learning a new game, picking up that project that has been waiting for a rainy (or snowy) day or finding a new volunteer opportunity, now is a great time to get involved in something new. You can find links to information about new hobbies and interests at:
www.cyfernet.org/hottopic/hobbymonth.html

January 15 - **Martin Luther King Jr. Day**. Each year on the third Monday of January schools, federal offices, post office and banks across America close as we celebrate the birth, the life, and the dream of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. (January 15, 1929 - April 4, 1968). For more go to http://nobelprize.org/nobel_prizes/peace/laureates/1964/king-bio.html

Some other things to observe in the month of January are: **Book Blitz Month, International Creativity Month, National Be On-Purpose Month, National Hot Tea Month, National Mentoring Month** and **Oatmeal Month**.

Author Birthdays:

January 4 – **Louis Braille** (born in 1809). The inventor of the braille code was born on this day. Read a biography of Louis Braille and a background of the development of the braille code at: www.afb.org/braillebug/louis_braille_bio.asp

January 4 – **Phyllis Reynolds Naylor** (born in 1933). Author of *Shiloh* and *The Fear Place*. You can also read about the author at: www.simonsays.com/content/index.cfm?sid=510

January 5 - **Lynne Cherry**. Lynne Cherry is the author and/or illustrator of over 30 award-winning books for children. Her best-selling books such as *The Great Kapok Tree* and *A River Ran Wild* teach children to respect the earth. For more about Lynne Cherry go to www.lynnecherry.com/

January 12 - **Jack London** (1875-1916). Jack London, whose name at birth was John Griffith Chaney, was born “south of the slot” on Market Street in San Francisco, CA. He is the author of *The Call of the Wild*, *In A Far Country*, and more. See <http://sunsite.berkeley.edu/London> for more on London.

January 17 – **Benjamin Franklin** (1706-1790). Inventor and early American leader Benjamin Franklin and his friends founded the Library Company, the country's first subscription library, in 1731. You can find a brief biographical sketch of Franklin at: www.ushistory.org/franklin/info/index.htm

January 17 - **Robert Cormier** (1925-2000). Author of *The Chocolate War*, *I Am the Cheese*, *Frenchtown Summer* and other young adult novels. For more go to www.teenreads.com/authors/au-cormier-robert.asp

January 18 - **A.A. Milne** (1882-1956). After many failed attempts Alan Alexander Milne (A.A. Milne) finally wrote *Winnie The Pooh*. He got his inspiration from his sons' toys and from there he wrote *The House at Pooh Corner*, and he claimed this would be his last book. Milne realized that writing was his dream and in 1929 wrote *Toad of Toad Hall* based on the story told by Kenneth Grahames, *The Wind in the Willows*. The last book he published was *Year In, Year Out* in 1952 which proved to be a great success. For more on Milne go to www.pooh-corner.com or <http://www.winniethepooh.co.uk/author.html>

January 28 - **Vera Williams**. Author of *Lucky Song*, *Something Special for Me*, *"More More More," Said the Baby* and others. www.bookwire.com/bookwire/MeettheAuthor/Interview_Vera_Williams.htm

January 29 - **Rosemary Wells**. Wells' career as an author and illustrator spans more than 30 years and 60 books. Some of her works include *The Fog Comes on Little Pig Feet*, *Timothy's Tales from Hilltop School*, *Lassie Come Home* and other stories. For more on Wells go to www.rosemarywells.com

January 30 - **Lloyd Alexander**. Author of *The Cat Who Wished to be a Man*, *The Book of Three*, *The Black Cauldron*, *Border Hawk* and more.
<http://friend.ly.net/users/jorban/biographies/alexanderlloyd/index.html>

Summer Reading News



Looking for book title suggestions!

Over 70 libraries sent in the Bright Futures Intent to Participate form to the Idaho Commission for Libraries. We're getting ready to order books for the Read for Your Library incentive program. If you have suggestions for titles, please send them to [Stephanie](#). We're hoping to get quite a few mysteries to go with the theme, but may need to get other genres as well. The criteria includes newer titles that are appropriate for elementary school-age students that we can get from our book vendor in large quantities. Please send suggestions by the end of the month.



Don't Forget: Today (Dec 1) is the Deadline for Highsmith Orders

Puzzled about summer reading? Here's a clue: the deadline for ordering 2007 summer reading materials related to "Get a Clue @ your Library" and "YKN @ Your Library" (for teens) from Highsmith is Friday, December 1st.

To order online, [click here](#). Orders received by December 1 will be shipped by March 1, 2007. Be prepared for the super sleuths and daring detectives who will make tracks to your library in June. Order today!

School Zone

Buhl Students Treated like Royalty for AR party



Last spring, Sunset Bowl in Buhl was full of knights, jesters and even a few kings of the kingdom. In a medieval-themed party in their honor, 50 students from **Popplewell Elementary's** first through fifth grades earned enough Accelerator Reader (AR) points to be treated to a bowling party.

"Our theme was 'Welcome to the Enchanted World of Reading' so the party was a great way to celebrate for those working toward earning points all year," School Librarian **Pricilla Sisson** (pictured above) said. First-graders had to earn 25 points, earning the title of "page" to attend. Second-grade "knights" needed 50 points and third graders had to achieve "jester" status. All fourth and fifth-grade students needed 100 points to be crowned king or queen and those with over 200 points rules as "Kings of the Kingdom."

A few students earning over 100 points traveled in style to the bowling alley. They were picked up in a limousine. Sisson said they do the big party at the end of the program because it does inspire some students to read more. "I read every night," First-grader Zion Cleverly said in an article in The Times News. "I like that I can get prizes and am out of school for the party." Fourth-graders Ashley McGuire said the best prize is reading. "I read a lot and have 315 points and have earned prizes and stuff," Ashley said. "But I like the reading best."

We asked Pricilla what they have planned this year and she said they're going with a 50's theme called "Reading and Rocking with AR" featuring a fun sock hop and 50's records and juke box in the library. They'll go bowling again and have tied in the 50's theme to all their mini-celebrations and incentives for those who get to each AR level -- 25, 50, 100 and so on. A reading carnival is also in the planning stages.

Pricilla also manages to host a monthly Family Reading Night at the library. "We do it on a Wednesday night and we always seem to get a good-sized crowd," she said. In addition to reading time, they set up board games and quiet learning games and can sometimes get up to 120 people in the library. "Although it's much more manageable with about 60!" she said.

Thanks for sharing, Pricilla. Books for your events or library are on the way! If your school has something special planned to celebrate AR goals or other reading-related activities, we'd love to hear the details. Send Stephanie or Peggy

a note for The Scoop, and we'll send you a brand new hardback book for your library.

Know the Numbers

Read to Me Survey

The Idaho Commission for Libraries is working on a five-year LSTA report. One of the programs to be reviewed is Read to Me. We will be inviting public libraries to respond to an online survey during December and January to help us determine the impact of Read to Me on local library services. ICFL will be sending out a post card announcement when the survey is available. We hope you will take time to share your feedback with us.



A Closer Look at Emerging Trends in Youth Services

affect them.

Trend #9: The “sit and get” method of providing library services and programs has gone out the window. Today’s youth like to be involved in the planning and implementation of services that

“By encouraging young people to participate in the planning and implementation of services that affect them, libraries do a great deal to develop their civic awareness and sense of efficacy. Efficacy is the important belief that they can affect the world around them in positive ways. As children hit the “tween” years, from about 10 to 14, it is particularly important that they see themselves as active participants in their communities. Libraries, through carefully designed and supervised programs of youth volunteerism and participation, can foster this growth.” (Source: *Children & Libraries: Getting It Right*, by Virginia A. Walter)

Today’s young people are more attuned to issues of service and justice. A survey for Prudential Insurance Company of America found that 95 percent of youth believed it was very or somewhat important for youth to learn the value of community service. Similarly, a Gallup Youth Survey found that nine out of ten teenagers say that doing charitable or volunteer work is an important or very important part of being a good citizen.

Multiple factors may account for this interest. Thom Schultz argues that the high interest in service reflects "a counterbalancing effect with some of the other things that are happening in society today that are making service and helping others more attractive and more logical for kids to be interested in." He pointed to the effect of technology, which creates "a counterbalancing hunger for human relationships, . . . to reach out more in a personal and human way."

Another factor may be the increased emphasis on service in many parts of society. Widespread efforts to engage young people in service or volunteering developed in various settings in the last two decades of the 20th century. By the end of the 1990s, involvement in service had become something of an expectation for youth. Forty percent of high school respondents in the Prudential Spirit of Community Youth Survey said their school emphasizes volunteering. One-third of youth (32 percent) said their parents and other family members emphasized volunteering.

(Source: "Serving Others: An Emerging Emphasis for Youth," by Eugene C. Roehlkepartain, Elanah Dalyah Naftali, and Laura Musegades. Found on www.pbs.org/thecongregation/indepth/servingothers.html)

Tips & Tools

New Books at the Idaho Commission for Libraries:

These books are part of the Professional Development Service offered by the Idaho Commission for Libraries (ICFL). Materials can be borrowed either by direct loan or through interlibrary loan at your library. Go to <http://libraries.idaho.gov/professional-development-collection> or call ICFL at (208) 334-2150 or (800) 458-3271 for more information.

The Indispensable Librarian: Surviving (and Thriving) in School Media Centers in the Information Age, by Doug Johnson (1997).

This guide provides practical information on a library's mission, planning, public relations, technology, personnel, curriculum, budget, facilities, policies, and staff development in school media centers. (ICFL 027.8 Johnson)

Finish What You Start: Ten Surefire Ways to Deliver Your Projects on Time and on Budget, by Michael J. Cunningham (2006).

The author reveals "how to carefully balance the three critical factors of all projects – time, money, and resources" – to deliver projects on time and on budget. (658.404 Cuning)

News Beyond Idaho

Games on Demand at Pasco County Library System

The Pasco County Library System now offers “edutainment” to its patrons with Games on Demand, a free online database available on library computers in the county’s seven branch libraries. Games on Demand supports the library system’s goal of lifelong learning by offering a variety of educational media for all ages including Scrabble, Sudoku Quest, Type to Learn, KidSpeak Spanish, Math Missions, Where in the World is Carmen Sandiego? Clifford’s Musical Memory Games, and Reader Rabbit. There are over 140 games with new games being added regularly. For more information, contact Linda Bragg at lindab@pascolibraries.org or call 727-861-3020. (Reprinted from the September/October 2006 issue of *Public Libraries*)

Talk Back: We welcome your feedback on anything in *The Scoop*. Just e-mail Peggy or Stephanie and we'll print your comments in *The Scoop*.

Disclaimer The Idaho Commission for Libraries retains sole discretion with regard to the content of this newsletter, and reserves the right to edit, modify, or delete content. Advertising will not be accepted. Permission to reproduce information in this newsletter is granted to other nonprofit organizations, so long as credit is given to the author and source, except for items which are reprinted from other sources and are protected by copyright. The Idaho Commission for Libraries is not responsible for the contents of any linked sites or any link contained within a linked site.



To Subscribe or to Unsubscribe: Visit <http://libraries.idaho.gov/the-scoop> and enter in your e-mail address. Subscriptions are free!

Contact Us: *The Scoop* is a service of the Idaho Commission for Libraries' Read to Me Program. To contribute or provide suggestions, contact [Peggy McClendon](mailto:Peggy) or [Stephanie Bailey-White](mailto:Stephanie) at (208) 334-2150 or 1-800-458-3271.