

Hot Off the Press: Magazines, Newsletters and Bulletins from the Government - Transcript

Please stand by for realtime captions.

good afternoon, everyone. Welcome to the FSHS DLP Academy. We have another excellent webinar for you. The title is hot off the press, magazines, newsletters, and bulletins free from the government. Our presenter is Jane Canfield who has done many webinars for us which we PRTHS. She has 40 years of experience in the library field. She started her career as a public librarian and moved into school libraries and taught for many years, worked as the director of the library post secondary location school. And she fell in love with the world of government documents and has taken on the task of promoting documents that exist in other languages especially Spanish as 100% of her users are Spanish speakers. Before we get started, I will walk us through the usual house keeping reminders. If you have any questions or technical issues, use the chat box. It is located on the bottom right-hand corner of your screen. I will keep track of the questions that come in and at the end of the presentation, we will go back to Jane and she will respond. We are also recording today's session and we will email a link to the recording and slides to everyone who registered for the webinar. We will be sending you a certificate of participation, using the email you used to register for the webinar. If anyone needs additional certificates because multiple watched the webinar with you, please email us include the title of the webinar along with the names and email addresses of those needing certificates. Laptop users may zoom in on the slides being presented. To exit, mouse over the blue bar at the top of the screen so it expands, then click on the bar to get back to the default here. At the end of the session, we will share a webinar satisfaction survey with you. We will let you know when it is available in the chat box. We appreciate your feedback after the session including comments on the presentation style and value of the webinar. Now if Jane were -- would screen share any part of the presentation today, if she does that, you will not see the chat box. So if you want to ask a question in that case, we will watch the chat trap because Jane is presenting. If she starts screen sharing, mouse over the blue bar at the top and click on chat to enable the chat box. With that, I'll hand the virtual microphone over to Jane who will take it from here.

Okay, good afternoon, everyone. If somebody doesn't mind putting in the chat that you can hear me without any trouble, we will get started. This webinar actually started off as a poster for the October virtual conference. And it has turned into a webinar. My original idea came from when I started working in government documents in my library, there was a old fashioned six drawer catalog cabinet sitting in the area that held the actual catalog cards for magazines that throughout the years the library had received from GPO in physical format. By the time I got there, most of the magazines were no longer in physical format and now there are even fewer in physical format but many of them still exist in electronic format. I started off checking those magazines against a list that we had and the periodical area of the library against the card catalog, checking to see what was there and then checking what is available electronically to make sure that it is in our online catalog. But even after that, I realized that many of our are unaware of how many news bulletins are published by the government. As with many libraries, budgets are tight. Magazines are expensive subscriptions and I suspect many of you have had to cut down on the quantity of physical and electronic magazines we have received. So if you can find things that fill in the gaps that you can get free by email and by electronic subscription and provide them to your users, that should be something that can justify your existence in government documents and help out your library in providing those things that exist, that fill in some of those missing gaps. So let's get started and talk about what is available from the government.

There are hundreds if not thousands available magazines, newsletters, and bulletins. So what does the United States government publish as magazines, bulletins, and newsletters? A large variety of

information in a huge number of subject areas that include the humanities, history, science, health, agriculture, and politics. A few of the titles included, quick takes, the osha bulletin that comes out. NIH medline plus which is still available in physical format, Prologue, which is the magazine published by the National Archives and Records Administration. And many of you are familiar with MMWR, the morbidity and mortality weekly report from the CDC, which at the moment contains lots of really valuable information on what is going on with Covid-19. Where can you find the magazines and bulletins and news letters that are appropriate for your library users? We will go at the end of the presentation, we will go live and look at some of these places. Starting with the catalog of government publications, you can do a search for magazines, bulletins, news letters. You can search by topic, by specific agency name. There are also within the CGP. Publications which index magazines from various agencies and gives you lists of those and also, you can get two historical publications that no longer exist but are digitized in electronic format, as well as information on managing electronic periodical collections.

Meta lib is a source for finding the magazines and bulletins and they also have an excellent A through Z resource list of various agencies. Frequently, they will say things like EPA publications and you can go to a list of publications from the Environmental Protection Agency. The GPO book store has many magazines, a variety of subject fields. Most of them have some cost attached but they are not necessarily particularly expensive subscriptions. That's another source. Where else? In usa.gov, you can search for magazines, bulletins, news letters. You can search by agency, topic, you can also search by state or region and find magazines that exist and are published regionally by government entities.

Large agencies, nearly all of them publish something in the way of a newsletter or bulletin. The national services for the blind and handicapped, the U.S. department of agriculture, the bureau of land management, national weather service, that's just a partial list. NARA, the national archives and records administration has archives which are no longer published which with available. I have some screen shots of various places you can look.

This is the catalog of government publications. I just did a search for magazines. You can also look for newspapers, bulletins, by agency name. You will find lots of information and ways to subscribe to those magazines. Metalib is not only a resource for magazines but metalib includes this wonderful A through Z resource list. You can go through the list and look at unusual agencies, look at publications from those agencies. It's a really good resource for doing that search for you want to look for magazines that make - or bulletins and news letters that may exist from topics or agencies that your library would be interested in. This is just an example from one page of the Metalib list of resources. It has in addition to various agencies, it has things like environmental health perspectives. It has environmental protection agency catalog search. EPA publications and news letters. So that using the meta lib A through Z list, you can find a number of interesting periodical publications.

Okay. The GPO book store is another great source and this is just a screen shot of their page of magazines and journals. You can sign up for your email to get information on magazines and journal products and offers from the GPO book store. Usa.gov is an excellent source. When I put in a search for magazines and newspapers, I got the bureau of Land Management which was a surprise for me. Who knew they had interesting magazines and news letters. I also got numerous, numerous information on state, local, city publications that are bulletins, news letters, and periodic publications from regional sources. The USDA is another source of information that if you have an agricultural presence in your area. They publish an index to the USDA farmer's bulletin. The USDA farmer's bulletin has existed for many years. They have a digitized collection of those bulletins that is available. They include everything

from advice on planting your crops to nutrition for children. It is a very interesting thing to take a look at.

The CDC. All of us are well aware of the CDC's role in providing guide lines for Covid-19 and providing vaccines and developing vaccines for Covid-19. In addition, the CDC has a number of news letters. Most are electronic to which you can subscribe, depending on the needs of your patrons in your library. The CDC has within their publications list, featured news letters. And this changes periodically and they feature different ones if they are news letters, including these here and multiple others. They publish a newsletter on flu, they publish a newsletter on just general CDC newsroom information, that you can subscribe to for your library. Probably the most famous and definitely peer reviewed investigative journal of CDC is the morbidity and mortality weekly report. Which as many of you know goes far beyond just reporting on mortality rates for different diseases. Currently, they are very focused on Covid-19. There have been some really interesting graphics and infographics they have put in the journal on Covid-19, illustrating -- cases illustrating what has happened in schools that have opened. It is very useful particularly if you have patrons in the medical field or professors at a university. It is a useful publication for them.

The library of congress also has some periodic publications. One of the most famous and interesting is the library of congress magazine. It is one that is still available in a printed format. And you can subscribe to it for free for your library. And you can also see back digital issues on the library of congress site. The national library service for the blind and handicapped offers services to magazines that are in Braille. They also publish talking book topics and other magazines who are useful to people available to their services. That is a little unexpected source of being able to provide not just books but also magazines to your patrons who are in some way visually handicapped.

This is the site from the bureau of land management which was a surprising source for finding newsletters and magazines. We are going to take a look at their site live in a bit. The national archives has numerous publications including NARA archives, historical publications that are no longer published but have historical value. They are accessible and available. Many of them in digital format from the national archives.

The National Weather Service, another surprising source of being able to get newspapers, # news letters, and information from them. We will look at their site and what they offer as well. This is the link to a publication from Eric. Most of you know Eric. This publication is not new. The information in it is still useful. It is for managing electronically published journals. I pulled up part of the information that is there. It is very useful article to orient you as to how to handle your collection, what is it people are looking for, what this says and this is true even though this publication is from 2002. Your patrons and users are looking for articles on a particular subject, regardless of the source, articles they have already identified, or sometimes the entire content of the specific journal or magazine. We need to be able to support all of these aspects of how are users search for magazines. I actually keep an electronic list of the magazines that we receive in electronic format. And I catalog those magazines into our online catalog. Not all of them because it is a task that I will never totally finish. I also for our users, they like to see what exists physically before they go looking for an electronic journal. I keep a printed copy of the cover and updated periodically and I keep at least one or two examples in a notebook of the table of contents from many of the government publications and magazines that we receive. It has become known in my library as the blue notebook with the magazines. That's how people ask for it. Because they know there is a copy in my area and there is a copy in our periodical section. I still have users who like looking at that before they say, well, with this publication, can you help to get to it online. So just a

comment as to ways I have handled it. It is not -- compared to the days that some of us remember in which you checked in physical magazines and cards, it is very much harder to try to keep track of what you receive electronically. Probably the best way to do it is to at least have a catalog item in your online catalog for the title of the magazine with subject headings for what that magazine contains. .

State and local publications, there are a lot of state, city, County, government sources, very nice and most of them are online publications now. I put three here. All three of these are using usa.gov. One of them is conservation magazine from Missouri government. One of them is resources newsletter about the parks of fair fax County, Virginia, and the last is waw KEGSa in Washington, a publication for senior citizens. That is just three examples of local publications available at usa.gov.

I did some looking publications in other areas, periodicals, magazines, news letters. There are not a lot. I did not find a bunch of sources. This particular screen is in Eric. It is not # new but it would be a good starting point. , a list of bilingual newspapers, news letters and periodicals. It contains addresses for various periodicals that are bilingual in Spanish and English. It is not new but it is one place to start for looking for publications in other languages.

I found within the FDA, a few publications that are in Spanish and other languages. Most of them are only serial publications in that they are not updated on a regular basis. But those publications are there and they are available for many other agencies besides the FDA, also including the CDC, EPA, have brochures and news letters that they publish on an irregular basis in another language. In the case of the FDA, they have publications in particular on women's health in a number of multiple languages that are there and available. .

I'm going to go to screen sharing and share my desk top. We will go online and look at some of the places you can find your publications that that you might need or want to take a look at. Let's see if I can get my screen sharing set up here. Here we go. I'm going to start with the GPO, government book store. It is what most of us receive anyway. One of the things we do have and I'm going to go a search for magazines, one of the things they provide, select numerous subscriptions to magazines. There is a state magazine. Mobility Forum, citizen harmine. So all of these, civil engineer, some of these still in physical format, some of them only in electric. It is a question of looking through them and seeing what is available that your library -- humanities is one I receive. English forum for those who teach English. That is interesting. I will click on this one so you get an idea. English Teaching Forum published pie the bureau of educational and cultural affairs. It is in a paperback format. It is 1050, this particular issue number is in stock. You can order it from GPO. Most of these magazines from the GPO book store do carry at a cost.

Here is discover my plate fruits. Let's see what this looks like. This is an e-publication. In the case of this one, it is a free publication from discover my plate in e-books and emagazines. You can browse by topic and see what's available. You can browse by agencies. You can browse by collections. I'm going to go to subscriptions and magazines. Here they are. Let's look at humanities, just to take a look at something else. In this case, Humanities Magazine comes from the Smithsonian Institute. It has a cost of \$25 which I believe is annually. Here's the information about it. So you can actually order some of the magazines from the GPO book store. .

Let's take a look at Metalib. More than searching for magazines, what I want to look at in Metalib is the A through Z resource list. I have found the list useful for magazines and also just for looking at what exists in different agencies, what's out there and available. It is a really nice list of resources. Access to

data bases, articles from the national library , literature, catalog of government publications, the collections of the defense technical information center. EPA news letters. This is where I'm going to go. Go back to Metalib and look at EPA publications and newsletters. Okay. This web page is not available for viewing right now. Okay. That always makes it fun. So what do I do now? Okay, let's try searching in VA for publications. I usually give feedback but not today. Publications from records glossary. Here's a list of some of the publications from EPA. Some of them will be news letters. Some of them will be reports that happened once but this is a place to start that you can look for publications. They are divided by publication type. I am finding on frequent occasions, that same sort of, this page is not available at the moment. I think as change is happening, with new administration, that will be ongoing for a while. Let me get out of this. This is the national weather service page. This has some interesting reports that happen at intervals. The aware report is a monthly newsletter for emergency managers and partners of the national weather service. The front is an annual newsletter for aviation safety tips. Presto is a monthly climate survey for the Baltimore, Maryland D.C. area. And I'm going to click on the aware report, take a look at . Here's the weather ready nation aware. Here's a list of all of the publications of this monthly report for many years including going back as far as 1976. So I'm going to click on the march 21 -- I think that's supposed to say 2021. Here we are, march, 2021. Here's the weather ready nation aware newsletter. Okay. What will be happening with advisories and warnings, a look to the future, plan change and hazard messaging. So just an example of a newsletter that exists from government resources. This is the bureau of land management page which provides various magazines and news letters. I thought it was one of my favorites because who knew that the bureau of land management had news letters including news bites by public lands, facts at your fingertips, a monthly newsletter for Oregon and Washington. Frontiers which deals with Alaska. So if any of you are from those states or close by, they might be of interest. Let's take a look at my public lands. Here are a few of the issues that are available in digital format. I'm going to take a look at facts at your fingertips, another one of their publications. Many agencies have available digatized versions of publications, some of which are no longer available but many of which are still being published. You can access freely. The national archives. The national archives has numerous publications that are available online. There are print versions no longer in stock but you could ask them about one of their publications. They have over here, publications, browse all, you can browse by topic, by profession, by type of publication that exists. Other publications getting started, kids and families. And here's another list of publications that they have available of historic nature. Prologue is their journal. Here it is. Access many of our articles online.

So one more example of what is available from -- okay, main page, previous issues. Let's look at previous issues. You can see the table of contents that link you to various of the Prologue magazine publications. .

The CDC, which this page of the CDR highlights another but lesser known peer reviewed journal which CDC publishes which is the preventing chronic disease public research practice and policy. This is actually a peer reviewed journal for those of you in academic libraries that have students and professors that need to access peer reviewed publications. It is not as well known as CDC's other publications but here is volume 18 which has been released. It lists articles that are there that have to be are oral health, vaccination, so that -- there is a survey here about health departments linked with each other. So this is just a lesser known but important journal of the CDC, preventing chronic disease journal. It is one of the publications within the DPUCHLT that is peer reviewed. You can choose to subscribe to it here. Visit archives of the issue. There is information for the people who are interested in being peer reviewers for the journal. One publication I came across that I wasn't -- did not know before I started to do this webinar webinar. CDC has an email subscription service for numerous letters. I will hit the one that says featured newsletters. You can subscribe to subscriptions with CDC and search for specific newsletters. Featured news letters this week, the CDC news room, science clips, preventing chronic disease journal,

funding announcement which comes weekly. And then they also have a featured topics list from their various journals. You can subscribe to news letters by hitting here. Here's about a 15 page list of all of the newsletters that the CDC publishes. You will see some of them are yearly. Some are quarterly, some are monthly. Some of them say as needed. But you can subscribe to all or any of these by clicking on them and sending an email. Then you will receive them as they are published. So just -- I had no idea and still I did this webinar, how many newsletters the CDC publishes. That wraps it up for my sharing. And I'm going to stop sharing. Thank you very much for listening and participating in the webinar, particularly as I am sure that many of you are taking some vacation days or your institutions are closing down for the Easter weekend break as we are. When I am finished here today, I'm finished until next Tuesday which feels good other than things I have to get caught up on over the weekend. So thank you for participating on a Wednesday afternoon. And I'm open for questions that are in the chat or any questions that are out there.

Thank you, Jane. Another great webinar. Wow, this is a lot. I didn't realize all of those were out there. That was incredible.

I didn't even come close to covering all of them. Almost every agency has several publications.

Elizabeth had the question, are items from the GPO book store for purchase only? If you go into e-pubs, a lot of them are offering some. There are a bunch that are free.

I think some of the magazines that are subscription in the book store are probably available to those of us in depositories as a selection item. But not all of them. I know that for instance, we get Civil Engineer and we are not paying for it. So if there are some you are interested in, check to see if they are available as an item selection through depository library program before you pay for them.

Elizabeth said this has been super helpful. This will come in handy with working with liAZ en with liacen libraries. Great point. Any other questions for Jane? We have some time here. Ashley can put the satisfaction -- wait. She read my mind. There you go. If she can put in the links to our repository, you can pick out the webinars that are there.

As always, if you would like a copy of my actual powerpoint, I will happily send it to you. With the PDF version, the links are not always active. And with the powerpoint, they are. If you want a copy of the powerpoint, version, I will put my email -- it is in the presentation but I will put it here also. I'm happy to tend it to you.

Any more questions? I don't know if they could put a single place for all of the newsletters in one spot. Does Metalib?

That would be really nice but in all of my searching, I did not find any one source that listed like these are all of the government magazines and publications.

Probably too big of a task to wrap your arms around.

It really is. This is one of those, I realized that it is not a task you can ever say you have finished. As with any other magazines and periodicals, it changes. They come into publication, out of publication. This is one of those things that you tell yourself, I will as I find them, subscribe to ones that will be useful. I will

make them as available as I can to users but it is not a task that you can go, I found them all and I'm done.

Yeah. Any more questions for Jane? I'm curious how you started out on your list? Did you list down some key agencies that you wanted to check?

I started with key agencies, with topics I know I have been asked for. I also started with the very old wooden six drawer catalog that I had with literal card catalogs listing the titles of magazines. Many of which no longer exist but they gave me an idea of topics and agencies to go look for.

Yeah. This is a great resource. This will be a valuable slide deck. By next day it will be in our webinar archive ask you can pick up the slides in the pdf, transcript, closed captioning, a recording will be there so anyone can listen to it again. It should be good. Any more questions for Jane? Just keep questions coming, please. First, I'd like to thank Jane for another terrific webinar. She has done so many. They are all terrific. I would like to thank Ashley Dalen keeping everything running smoothly. We have a lot of webinars coming up. We have five coming up in April so far. The next one is tomorrow, FDLP Covid-19 support services. We also have our SPING virtual depository meeting from 1:00 to 5:15. You received notice of all of the webinars when you sign up at FDLP.gov. And from the web page that is linked to the index section. You can view a calendar of upcoming webinars, access past webinars and also you can volunteer to be a presenter like Jane who has done many. I know there are people in the audience who could do a terrific webinar on any topic. It could be managing a depository, an agency, anything related to federal government information is fair game. We are good on time. Usually I'm running close to the deadline We are doing okay today.

Yeah, doing very well.

Yes, I would second, if you got something you are doing in your library with your depository that is unique, interesting, or if you have done a topic that you are passionate about, turn it into a webinar for the rest of us.

Yeah, exactly. If you are doing in library instruction, liaison work, and do presentations anyway, think of it as a broader application and others would be interested in it. We could easily turn it into a webinar here. It would be available for your own cliental. Think about that. Getting some shoutouts here. Susan, thank you. Any other questions for Jane? Thank you, very informative. We have a little more time. Thank you Jane for a wonderful presentation.

I thank all of you for attending. .

Any last questions before I wrap it up? I'm going to have to check out -- I have to do some presentations coming up. I'm going to have to -- Jane has done a webinar on how to do a webinar. I need to study that and learn some good techniques on how to put these -- with the nice graphics. I can do the plain text but I'm graphics challenged. I need to study up on that.

I do reasonably well with graphics but I'm not -- my master's degree happens to be in educational technology and sciences. So I have had some training and I have taught this as a course. If you compare what I do to what our public relations people do for the university, nowhere close.

But you always have nice graphics.

Thank you. I try to look for things that will make it interesting. .

I always do text only. Any last questions? Going once, going twice. I think you have covered just about everything. I know the audience loved it.

I'm glad, thank you. I appreciate your attendance.

I'm trying to schedule future dates for webinars, keep an eye on the calendar, news, events. Think about presenting a webinar yourself. Some of the people in the audience, I know you could do it. With that, I will wrap things up. Jane, thank you one more time.

You are very welcome. Really appreciate it. Thank you for great tech support. Please come back to the FDPL academy. Come back tomorrow. We have more in April. Our April council meeting, please attend that. Have a great rest of the day, everyone. .

[Event concluded] [Event Concluded]