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A bill that aims to make changes to Florida’s property and gun laws cleared its first hurdle in the Florida Senate.

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Florida once again leads the nation in sign-ups for health plans on the Affordable Care Act Marketplace. Hundreds of students from Pinellas County schools got out of the classroom on Wednesday.

Man-made ponds that collect stormwater and filter out the pollutants of everyday life are ubiquitous throughout Florida, but new research has discovered a big problem with the little lakes.

A federal judge is dismissing Disney’s free speech lawsuit against Governor Ron DeSantis.

Businesses that operate child-care facilities for employees would get tax breaks under a bill moving forward in the Florida House.

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Organized retail theft could soon net steep penalties in Florida.

February is Black History Month.

The Florida State Fair in Tampa starts a week from today (Thursday 2/8).

A federal judge is refusing to take action against the state of Florida in a lawsuit challenging an order to deactivate a pro-Palestinian student group.

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Hundreds of Pinellas County students gathered at the University of South Florida St. Petersburg campus to learn about teamwork Wednesday.

The COVID-19 pandemic made the already-high-pressure jobs of first responders – like police officers, firefighters and EMS providers – even more stressful.
Florida might see fewer wildfires this year.

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Governor Ron DeSantis' administration quietly changed a policy that allowed Floridians to receive driver’s licenses and state identification cards that reflect their gender identity.

Florida’s Department of Education recently co-produced NPR’s Next Gen Radio Project, a workshop for new journalists.

Local governments could not ban single-use plastics or Styrofoam on their properties under bills filed in the state Legislature.

Cargo and cruise traffic hit record highs last year at Florida seaports, which took advantage of global supply-chain issues and a desire by people to travel as COVID-19 pandemic restrictions ended.

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Fire officials say a small plane has crashed into a home at a Clearwater mobile home park, killing several people aboard the plane and in the home.

Small plane crashes into house at Clearwater mobile home park.
The U.S. Department of Labor estimates almost 57-hundred initial unemployment claims were filed last week in Florida.

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Local governments could not ban single-use plastics or Styrofoam on their properties under bills filed in the state Legislature.

Some transgender individuals and their allies say they are "horrified" by the reversal of a state policy targeting them. Governor Ron DeSantis is deploying members of the Florida State Guard and additional members of the Florida National Guard to Texas.

A federal judge has ruled in a First Amendment case involving pro-Palestinian student groups on Florida college campuses. Local governments and Florida agencies could not regulate single-use plastics or Styrofoam on their own properties under proposed legislation in Tallahassee.

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Residents of a waterfront community in Clearwater are stunned after a plane crashed into their neighborhood last Thursday night. The deadline to register to vote or change your party affiliation ahead of Florida's presidential preference primary in March... is coming up in just three weeks.

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Despite consumer confidence rising nationally, attitudes in the Tampa area aren’t as optimistic.

Researchers at the University of South Florida are looking at the relationship between politics and social media.

A survey from the University of South Florida School of Public Affairs looked at issues important to people during a presidential election year.

Florida’s state government leaders have been promising to do more about human trafficking.

Florida’s next governor and other state leaders would get sizable pay bumps under a proposal moving through the House.

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Tampa Electric will ask state regulators to approve a plan that would raise base electric rates over the next three years.

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The names of three people who were killed when a small airplane crashed into a Clearwater neighborhood were released Saturday.

The controversial development of the land surrounding Florida’s only natural hot spring appears to be back at square one.

The National Hurricane Center is launching a new graphic tool for forecasting.

Gas prices are on their way down.

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Online Only

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VICT

Gina Jordan, WFSU

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The Florida legislature is reaching its halfway mark. On this week’s Florida Matters, we get an update from lawmakers in Tallahassee are considering bills that would decide what municipalities can do with controversial monuments or flags. Leaders of the Florida Senate and House are back in session. As the 2024 legislative calendar winds down, lawmakers are feverishly trying to wrap up legislation before the Nov. 7 primary.

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02/07/2024 5:30/7:30 News Spot Arts 2-7 A Soldier’s Play WR

The West Coast Black Theatre Troupe in Sarasota is presenting "A Soldier’s Play," now through February 18th. The annual open enrollment period for Florida’s Prepaid College Tuition program has begun.

02/07/2024 5:30/7:30 News Spot Education 2-6 FL Prepaid CC

State officials have arrested one paid petition circulator and are looking for a second for petition fraud. Health advocates are criticizing Florida’s decision to sue the federal government over a rule that aims to protect children’s health insurance. Mark Schreiner

02/07/2024 6:00/8:00 News Spot Health 2-7 Child Health WRAP

The Clearwater Marine Aquarium - which became famous for its care of the injured dolphin “Winter,” is embarking on an expansion that would take it far beyond dolphins and sea turtles. Stephanie Colombini

02/07/2024 6:00/8:00 News Spot Environment 2-7 aquarium exp cc

Florida is suing the federal government over recent guidance about children’s health insurance. Health advocates are criticizing Florida’s decision to sue the federal government over a rule that aims to protect children’s health insurance. Mark Schreiner

02/07/2024 6:00/8:00 News Spot Economy 2-6 Citizens Policies RDR

Florida regulators are signing off on a plan that could lead to condominium-association policies leaving the state’s Citizens Property Insurance. NSF

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02/07/2024 6:00/8:00 News Spot Transportation 2-7 Tampa Train Bill RDR

A Florida Senate committee revised a proposal that could help extend a private passenger-rail system from Orlando to Tampa. NSF

02/07/2024 7:00/9:00 News Spot Health 2-7 Child Health CC

Florida is suing the federal government over recent guidance about children’s health insurance. A bill that would lower the minimum age from 21 to 18 to purchase rifles and shotguns has been approved by a Florida House panel – but its future is in doubt. Tom Urban

02/07/2024 7:00/9:00 News Spot Education 1-29 PatriotGroup Bill RD

One of the largest marine rehabilitation centers in Florida plans to get even bigger. NSF

02/07/2024 7:00/9:00 News Spot Environment 2-7 aquarium exp cc

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02/07/2024 7:00/9:00 News Spot Health 2-5 Gun Emergency CC

Citizens Property Insurance added about four thousand policies last week after seeing a large decrease in its policy count last month. NSF

02/07/2024 7:45/9:45 News Spot Environment 2-7 Climate PROMO

Florida lawmakers want to crack down on people experiencing homelessness who camp on sidewalks and parks. WLRN, Sherrilyn Cabrera

02/07/2024 8:00/10:00 News Spot Environment 2-77 Climate PROMO

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A play debuting Friday at Tampa's longest-running theatre company tells the story of a German trans woman who survived the Nazi and Communist regimes in East Berlin. When people don't have health insurance, they have to make difficult decisions about when and where to get care. Charlotta von Mahlsdorf [shar-LOT-uh vahn MALLS-dorf] is a transgender woman who survived the Nazi and communist regimes in Germany.

The Florida Senate is altering last year's historic affordable housing bill. Florida lawmakers are moving to tighten the reigns on the exchange of virtual currency. Many Florida east coast residents are reporting they felt an earthquake last night. [Wednesday] when people don't have health insurance, they have to make difficult decisions about when and where to get care. The late Jewish author and philosopher Elie Wiesel [eh-lee vee-ZEL] was one of the world's leading spokesmen for Holocaust remembrance and long-term recovery efforts after Hurricane Ian.

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A proposed constitutional amendment seeking to authorize recreational marijuana is looming.

A Florida Senate committee has approved a bill that would make harassment of election workers illegal.

NASA's newest climate satellite will survey the world's oceans and atmosphere in never-seen-before detail.

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Authorities are collecting reports from residents along Florida's east coast who say they felt an earthquake last [Wednesday] night.

Sarasota County is rolling out a long-awaited program that's tied to Hurricane Ian recovery.

Now that the Florida House and Senate have both approved their budget proposals, it's on to the negotiation process for a spending plan for the 2024-2025 fiscal year.

This week, The Zest Podcast continues its Couples in the Kitchen series with a pair of food entrepreneurs in Tampa.

WUSF recently co-produced NPR's Next Gen [jen] Radio Project, a workshop for new journalists.

Entrepreneurs usually have a reason why they start a business. When she moved from New York, it took awhile for Sonya Mallard to find a place in Florida to call home. But she found it at the historic Moore Cultural Complex in Mims.

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A judge is closing the door on allegations that key parts of a 2021 Florida elections law were unconstitutional.

A proposed law that would ban drivers cruising in left lanes of highways is ready to be heard by the full Florida Senate.

A proposal moving through the Florida Senate would ban local elected officials from accepting gifts from agents of hostile foreign countries.

A Florida Senate committee has approved a bill that would make it illegal to harass election workers.

The University of South Florida St. Petersburg campus and the Florida Holocaust Museum will open to the public.

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<td>Legal</td>
<td>Florida senators are moving forward with a proposal that would make major changes to the state’s medical-malpractice laws.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>02/12/2024</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>News Spot</td>
<td>Education</td>
<td>A proposal in the Florida legislature could lead to more traditional public schools in Florida being converted into charter schools.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>02/12/2024</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>News Spot</td>
<td>Public Safety</td>
<td>A proposal moving through the Florida Senate would ban local elected officials from receiving gifts from agents of hostile foreign countries.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>02/12/2024</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>News Spot</td>
<td>Culture</td>
<td>Transgender rights advocates staged “die-in” demonstrations at D-M-V offices across Florida last week (Friday).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
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<td>4</td>
<td>News Spot</td>
<td>Culture</td>
<td>Spring training starts this week.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>02/12/2024</td>
<td>418</td>
<td>Online Only</td>
<td>Culture</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>02/12/2024</td>
<td>432</td>
<td>News Spot</td>
<td>Business</td>
<td>The Florida House and Senate have advanced different plans aimed at regulating vacation rentals.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>02/12/2024</td>
<td>432</td>
<td>News Spot</td>
<td>Education</td>
<td>A former New York City mayor will debate a Moms for Liberty co-founder at a public debate at the Orlando Library this evening (Monday, February 12).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>02/12/2024</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>News Spot</td>
<td>Politics</td>
<td>Federal authorities have launched an investigation to determine why a private jet tried to make an emergency landing on I-75 in Collier County.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>02/12/2024</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>News Spot</td>
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<td>532</td>
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<td>Politics</td>
<td>The Florida Supreme Court is refusing to speed up a challenge to a disputed congressional redistricting plan.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>02/12/2024</td>
<td>544</td>
<td>Interview [2-way]</td>
<td>Legal</td>
<td>Florida leads the nation when it comes to pending immigration cases.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>02/12/2024</td>
<td>628</td>
<td>News Spot</td>
<td>Transportation</td>
<td>Florida’s average gas price has been dropping for the past 10 days.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>02/12/2024</td>
<td>628</td>
<td>News Spot</td>
<td>Politics</td>
<td>New details have surfaced in the arrest of former Manatee County administrator Scott Hopes.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>02/12/2024</td>
<td>628</td>
<td>News Spot</td>
<td>Arts</td>
<td>Entertainment venues may soon be prevented from cancelling artists for their political views.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
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<td>628</td>
<td>News Spot</td>
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</tr>
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</tr>
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A kickoff event Monday in downtown Tampa celebrated the launch of extensive upgrades to Blake High School’s riverfront stadium.

Entertainment venues could soon be barred from cancelling artists for their political views.

Owners of three farms – including two in Polk County – have signed deals with the state to restrict future residential and commercial development.

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Corporal punishment in Florida classrooms may soon require parental approval.

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A House bill that would ban review boards that investigate local law enforcement is headed to the full House.

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Several environmental groups say they plan to sue the federal government for failing to regulate waste produced by phosphate mining. The past three weeks have been frantic for those involved in the fresh cut flower industry in Miami, ahead of Valentine’s Day. Two pari-mutuel companies are asking the U.S. Supreme Court to block a deal giving the Seminole Tribe control over sports betting in Florida.

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Governor Ron DeSantis is proposing legislative action to try to curb retail theft, as well as porch piracy of delivered goods. A Florida Senate committee is slated to take up a proposal that would prevent children under age 16 from using social media. Today is the sixth anniversary of the Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School shooting in Parkland that killed 17 people. Several environmental groups notified the federal government that they plan to sue to force stricter regulations on the production of fertilizer from phosphate mines.

The Florida House is moving forward on a proposal to ban the making or selling of lab-grown meat in Florida. Pinellas County school board voted unanimously to extend the superintendent’s contract by three years. Pinellas County schools extended superintendent Kevin Hendrick’s contract at a board meeting Tuesday.

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A Florida Senate panel is signing off on a bill that would allow residents with homes valued at more than $700 thousand dollars to get coverage from the state's Citizens Property Insurance Corporation.

The Florida House and Senate take aim at squatters who move into someone else's property uninvited.

The Florida House is set to take up a bill that seeks to keep what supporters describe as "identity politics" out of teacher-preparation programs.

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Florida lawmakers are considering spending more than one hundred million dollars this year to buy land from the Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School in Parkland.

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One nonprofit agency in DeSoto County is still helping people whose lives were turned upside down after Hurricane Ian.

Committees in both the Florida House and Senate are signing off on a proposal that would create a new category of "rural emergency hospitals." Congress is considering a bill that would boost tax breaks for families with children. Bills moving through the state legislature would use money collected from gambling to preserve environmentally-sensitive land.

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The Florida House is considering legislation that will bring sweeping changes to the state’s Commission on Ethics. The Florida House is set to take up a bill that seeks to keep what supporters describe as "identity politics" out of teacher-preparation programs. Coming up on Morning Edition [All Things Considered]--

A bill designed to crack down on illegal street racing, stunts, and other behavior is moving through the Florida Senate. The family of a teen murdered at Parkland’s Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School is launching a campaign where re-created voices of gun violence victims will call federal lawmakers. High school can be a tough place for any kid -- especially students struggling with drug or alcohol addiction.

The DeSantis family is continuing to call on increased state funding for cancer treatment and research. Under a bill that’s in its third and final committee in the Florida Senate, the sacrifices of the Tuskegee Airmen would be remembered every year on a special state holiday. The family of a teen murdered at Parkland’s Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School is launching a campaign where re-created voices of gun violence victims will call federal lawmakers. High school can be a tough place for any kid -- especially students struggling with drug or alcohol addiction.
Hurricane Idalia caused more than three billion dollars in damage after it made landfall in Florida's Big Bend region last August. Governor Ron DeSantis is walking back some of Florida's policies that make it easier to challenge or ban a book in the state. Workers from Clearwater Marine Aquarium have released 11 cold-stunned Kemp’s ridley sea turtles back into the Atlantic Ocean. In the Tampa Bay area, descendants of Holocaust survivors are passing down family history. More and more people are quitting smoking. But the use of menthol cigarettes among those who smoke is growing.

The DeSantises are continuing to champion increased state funding for cancer treatment and research. A Forbes Advisor study places Tampa tenth on the list of cities with the worst drivers in America. Governor Ron DeSantis is calling on the Florida Department of Education and state legislature to reform the state's book ban policies. Almost two hundred employees will lose their jobs as Coca-Cola closes a plant in Dunedin.

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention is encouraging people who smoke menthol cigarettes to quit. The family of a teen murdered at Parkland's Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School is launching a campaign where re-created voices of gun violence victims will call federal lawmakers. Family members of Holocaust survivors say it's more important than ever to preserve history.

They're bright pink, huge and hard to miss. Hurricane Idalia [ee-DAHL-ee-ah] blew scores of flamingos to Florida's. WUSF recently co-produced NPR's Next Gen[jen] Radio Project, a workshop for new journalists. A youth-led non-profit group in Sarasota County is urging young voters to get more involved in this year's elections.

Get ready for a chilly and rainy weekend. The family of a teen murdered at Parkland's Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School is launching a campaign where re-created voices of gun violence victims will call federal lawmakers. The Tampa City Council has agreed to pay a former prison inmate 14 million dollars to compensate him for the 37 years he spent behind bars for a murder that he did not commit.

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A Florida bill that would ban homeless people from sleeping in public places is getting mixed reactions from Tampa advocates.

A Florida bill would make it illegal for homeless people to sleep in public places.

At least two controversial bills appear to be dead in the Florida Senate.

Workers from Cleanwater Marine Aquarium have released 11 cold-stunned Kemp's ridley sea turtles back into the Atlantic Ocean.

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A public media investigation finds a new state law is eliminating public unions.

Florida’s A1A Highway could soon be renamed in honor of the late Jimmy Buffett.

Florida lawmakers say a proposed ban on social media use for children under 16 is for their protection.

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The University of South Florida men's basketball team won its 11th straight game yesterday [Sunday] by defeating 24th-ranked Florida Atlantic 90 to 86.

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A federal judge has struck down Florida's current oversight of wetland permitting impacts to imperiled species, after the Environmental Protection Agency gave the state that federal authority in 2020. 

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Hemp farmers and small business owners are pushing back against a move to restrict sales of euphoria-inducing products sold over the counter at sites like gas stations, convenience stores and C-B-D shops.

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The next Governor of Florida might be in line for a six figure pay raise.

Florida Southern College president Anne Kerr is retiring.

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Florida saw a slight decline in the total number of tourists in 2023, but the number of international visitors continued to grow.

The Florida House is ready to take up two bills aimed at bolstering security measures at public schools and Jewish day schools.

A federal judge has struck down Florida's current oversight of wetland permitting impacts to imperiled species, after the Environmental Protection Agency gave the state that federal authority in 2020.

Members of a Florida Senate Committee are objecting to a House proposal that would raise the pay of future governors, state Cabinet members and judges. Instead, they suggested a study on legislative salaries.

For years, descendants of people who suffered the racist attacks at Rosewood and Ocoee [oh-KOH-ee] have been able to attend college for free, through state-funded scholarships.
Florida motorists would not be able to cruise in left lanes of highways, under a bill that passed last week (2/15) in the Florida House.

First time Tampa city council member Gwen Henderson opened a business last year to elevate Black authors. Last year was big for Gwen Henderson. She won her election to the Tampa city council, and opened a bookstore elevating Black authors.

The next Governor of Florida might be in line for a six figure pay raise. While Florida saw a slight decline in the total number of tourists in 2023, the number of international visitors continues to show a strong rebound following the COVID-19 pandemic.

And just a reminder … the deadline to register to vote in the March elections is TODAY [February 20th].

A proposal aimed at helping food banks get discounted prices for fresh foods is moving in both chambers of the Florida Legislature.

A bill that would require K-12 students in Florida to learn the history of communism has passed its second committee.

Florida motorists would not be able to cruise in left lanes of highways, under a bill that passed last week (2/15) in the Florida House.

Municipalities and dozens of local elected officials from across Florida are filing lawsuits against the state.

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Gas prices are once again climbing higher in Florida. Florida lawmakers are working on tax proposals, and they could provide some assistance to homeowners with property-insurance costs.

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Florida Republican legislative leaders are pushing a last-minute bill that could make it harder for some candidates to be elected to office.

The League of Women Voters of the St. Petersburg Area surveyed registered voters about plans for the Historic Gas Plant District and the new baseball stadium.

A world-renowned Flamenco dancer is creating roots in Tampa. Flamenco dance has taken one woman around the world, but she has chosen Tampa to become her home. Naturalist Roger Hammer went out for a walk on Virginia Key one day in 1979, and spotted some unusual red and yellow caterpillars.

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The League of Women Voters of the St. Petersburg Area says there's strong public opposition to the redevelopment of the Historic Gas Plant District and the construction of a new baseball stadium.

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Prior to 1921, Sarasota was a part of Manatee County. During that time, there were six known victims of lynchings in this area.

A historical marker will commemorate the six documented victims of lynching in Sarasota and Manatee counties.

The Florida Senate is signing off on a bill that seeks to keep children under age 16 off social-media platforms. Two controversial gun-related bills are positioned to go to the full Florida House, though the Senate has not considered them.

A bill that would ban kids under the age of 16 from using some social media platforms has passed the Florida Senate. A historical marker will commemorate the six documented victims of lynching in Sarasota and Manatee counties.

Parents could file civil lawsuits seeking damages for the wrongful death of a quote - unborn child.

A pair of Florida legislative committees approved legislation Thursday that seeks to prevent homeless people from sleeping in public places.

The Florida Senate is signing off on a bill that would allow school districts to authorize volunteer chaplains to help students in public schools.

The federal government cleared the student loan balances of about one-hundred-and-fifty thousand people this week.

The New College Board of Trustees voted Thursday to approve a proposal to buy land owned by Sarasota Bradenton International Airport.

Andy Citino [seh-TEEN-oh] makes it his mission to be an out and proud trans, queer elder. He says it’s his way of paying it forward. Prior to 1921, Sarasota was a part of Manatee County. During that time, there were six known victims of lynchings in this area.

State officials have approved a deal to keep Florida Atlantic University’s interim president on the job. A proposal to grant reparations to victims of abuse at several former Florida reform schools is moving through the legislature.

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Some University of South Florida students are in South Carolina for the Road to The White House class. Twenty-four University of South Florida students packed their bags and stacked into vans to travel to South Carolina to work on presidential campaigns ahead of this weekend’s primary.

The Biden Administration announced a new wave of student loan forgiveness this week.

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<td>Ari Herrera</td>
<td>We are less than 100 days from the start of hurricane season.</td>
</tr>
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<td>Tristan Wood, WFSU</td>
<td>A controversial proposal to bring back primary election runoffs has been temporarily postponed just days after being filed.</td>
</tr>
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<td>WUSF recently co-produced NPR’s Next Gen [jen] Radio Project, a workshop for new journalists.</td>
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<td>Feature Report</td>
<td>Sky Lebron</td>
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Scientists have completed a preliminary study of damage to Florida’s coral reefs from a record heat wave over the summer. And the results are not good.

A deep bass noise has been annoying residents of South Tampa for more than a year.

A new study shows last summer’s record heat wave did unprecedented damage to Florida’s coral reefs. But work is being done to rescue them.

Florida gas prices are drifting lower after setting a new 20-24 high.

Two of the most prominent women in art history are featured in a new exhibit at Selby Gardens in Sarasota.

Florida gas prices are drifting lower after setting a new 20-24 high.

In a survey of more than one thousand Florida residents, the Southern Poverty Law Center found overwhelming support for public education.

The body of a paddle boarder who went missing after leaving the Dunedin Boat Club on Friday was found Sunday.

Florida lawmakers are considering a measure that would ban local governments from enacting heat ordinances for outdoor workers.

The Russian war with Ukraine passed the two year mark over the weekend and some American families who escaped the fighting early on have a Tampa based nonprofit to thank.

Governor Ron DeSantis says he will sign a bill clearing the way for the release of grand jury testimony about the late sex offender Jeffrey Epstein (EP is an acronym for Epstein). The Senate committee and is now unlikely to pass this session.

A measure that opponents worried would help to establish fetal personhood in Florida has stalled in its final operations.

A small number of members of the Florida State Guard have been deployed to Texas to assist with border operations.

Scientists have completed a preliminary study of damage to Florida’s coral reefs from a record heat wave over the summer. And the results are not good.

Florida lawmakers are considering a measure that would ban local governments from enacting heat ordinances for outdoor workers.

Florida lawmakers might impose tougher penalties for kids arrested with guns.

A new study shows last summer’s record heat wave did unprecedented damage to Florida’s coral reefs. But work is being done to rescue them.

A seventh Polk County resident has been indicted in connection with the January 6th Capitol riot.

Florida lawmakers are considering a measure that would ban local governments from enacting heat ordinances for outdoor workers.

Florida lawmakers might impose tougher penalties for kids arrested with guns.

A pair of bills moving through the state Legislature would make it easier for landlords to evict squatters.

A measure that opponents worried would help to establish fetal personhood in Florida has stalled in its final Senate committee and is now unlikely to pass this session.
A pair of bills that would make it easier for Florida’s landlords to evict squatters is moving towards a vote by the full House and Senate. Some Florida lawmakers want to address a recent spike in youth gun arrests by toughening penalties for minors.

United Way of Florida wants to try out a free ride share program for low-income seniors. Ahead of her new cookbook coming out in March, Dalia Colón (dah-LEE-ah co-LOAN), host of WUSF’s The Zest podcast, talked to Florida Matters host, Matthew Peddie, about what it took to create a cookbook, how to safely include your children when you’re cooking, and how she highlights and celebrates food in Florida through each episode of The Zest.

An adult male has contracted the measles in Polk County. A pair of bills that would make it easier for Florida’s landlords to evict squatters is moving towards a vote by the full House and Senate.

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02/27/2024 6:30p  News Spot  Politics  2-27 Squatters Rights WRAP
A pair of bills that would make it easier for Florida’s landlords to evict squatters is moving towards a vote by the full House and Senate. Gabriella Paul

02/28/2024 0530/0730  News Spot  Health  2-27 Polk Measles RDR
An adult man has contracted the measles in Polk County. Rick Mayer

02/28/2024 0530/0730  News Spot  Politics  2-28 Term Limits Bill CC
A bill calling for term limits for county commissioners is headed to the full Florida Senate. Tom Urban

02/28/2024 0530/0730  News Spot  Environment  2-23 Environ Fund Bill RDR
The Florida Senate has unanimously approved a plan to to use hundreds of millions of gambling dollars to help pay for expansion of a state wildlife corridor and other environmental projects. NSF

02/28/2024 0600/0800  News Spot  Education  2-27 Pasco Book WRAP
A bill that would require K-12 schools to teach the history of communism passed its last committee in the Florida Senate Tuesday. Nancy Guan

02/28/2024 0600/0800  News Spot  Education  2-28 Communism Bill WRAP
The American Association of University Professors says that New College of Florida violated the academic freedom of its faculty. Danielle Prieur

02/28/2024 0600/0800  News Spot  Education  2-28 NCF-AAUP CC
Parental choice could be added to a controversial child labor bill. Meghan Bowman

02/28/2024 0630/0830  News Spot  Business  2-27 Child Labor SS
A South Florida congresswoman is calling for the state’s surgeon general to be ousted over his handling of a measles outbreak in Broward County. Tristan Wood, WFSU

02/28/2024 0630/0830  News Spot  Health  2-27 Measles-Ladapo CC
A bill that seeks to keep “identity politics” out of teacher-preparation programs is ready for consideration by the full Florida Senate. Gerard Albert III, WLRN

02/28/2024 0700/0900  News Spot  Education  2-27 NCF-AAUP WRAP
A national faculty group has placed New College of Florida on its sanctions list. Some school districts across the state have faced numerous book challenges. Meghan Bowman

02/28/2024 0700/0900  News Spot  Education  2-27 Pasco Book CC
A compensation program for surviving students who were abused at the Arthur G. Dozier School for Boys is one step closer to reality. Nancy Guan

02/28/2024 700  News Spot  Underserved Communities  2-28 Dozier Bill RDR
The Florida Strawberry Festival returns to Plant City for the 89th time on Thursday. NSF

02/28/2024 745  News Spot  Culture  2-28 Straw Queen FEA
There has never been a Black Strawberry queen in the 89-year history of the Florida Strawberry Festival. Sky Lebron

02/28/2024 Continuity  Promo  Culture  2-28 Straw Queen PROMO
Lawn-watering restrictions for Hillsborough, Pasco and Pinellas counties have been extended until July 1st. Gabriella Pinos

02/28/2024 Continuity  Web Tease  Environment  2-27 Water Restrict WEB
A bill that seeks to keep “identity politics” out of teacher-preparation programs is ready for consideration by the full Florida Senate. NSF

02/28/2024 Continuity  News Spot  Education  2-27 Teach Pol Bill RDR
The Pasco County school district is facing its first formal book challenge. NSF

02/28/2024 1200  News Spot  Education  2-27 Pasco Book WRAP
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02/28/2024 1200  News Spot  Under served Communities  2-28 Dozier Bill RDR
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02/28/2024 3  News Spot  Economy  2-23 Environ Fund Bill RDR
The Florida Senate has unanimously approved a plan to to use hundreds of millions of gambling dollars to help pay for expansion of a state wildlife corridor and other environmental projects. NSF

02/28/2024 4  News Spot  Education  2-28 Communism Bill WRAP
A bill that would require K-12 schools to teach the history of communism passed its last committee in the Florida Senate Tuesday. Danielle Prieur

02/28/2024 4, 628  News Spot  Politics  2-26 Left Lane Bill CC
A bill that seeks to prevent motorists from cruising in the left lane of highways is headed to Governor Ron DeSantis... but it’s not clear yet if he’ll sign it. Tom Urban

02/28/2024 432  News Spot  Education  2-28 CyberLaunch CC
A competition is being held this week to inspire Florida students to pursue careers in cybersecurity. Madelyn Todd
The Florida Strawberry Festival returns to Plant City for the 89th time on Thursday.

A Florida bill would make some loans from payday lenders, like AMSCOT, much more expensive for consumers.

Manatee County now owns 64 acres of undeveloped riverfront land.

A national faculty group has placed New College of Florida on its sanctions list.

A bid to allow schools to have volunteer chaplains for students is moving ahead in the Florida Senate.

The Florida Senate is ready to vote on a bill that would create a new legal holiday to commemorate the Tuskegee [tuss-KEY-gee] Airmen.

A compensation program for surviving students who were abused at the Arthur G. Dozier School for Boys is one step closer to reality.

The American Association of University Professors says that New College of Florida violated the academic freedom of its faculty.

A bill calling for term limits for county commissioners is headed to the full Florida Senate.

The Florida House has unanimously passed a bill that would allow representatives of certain patriotic organizations to visit schools during class time.

The Florida Department of Environmental Protection is asking a judge for a partial stay of a ruling in a battle over a decision that shifted permitting authority from the federal government to the state for projects that affect wetlands.

A bill that seeks to prevent motorists from cruising in the left lane of highways is headed to Governor Ron DeSantis... but it's not clear yet if he'll sign it.

A proposal that opponents say would help to establish fetal personhood in Florida has been pulled by its Republican sponsor.

A Florida Senate committee has approved a proposal that would authorize school districts to let volunteer chaplains provide services to students.

A Florida bill that would allow chaplains to act as school counselors in K-12 schools in Florida has passed its last committee in the Florida Senate, o

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A Florida Senate Committee is signing off on a bill that raises the possibility of some homes valued at more than 700-thousand dollars becoming eligible for coverage from the state's Citizens Property Insurance.

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<td>News Spot</td>
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<td>02/29/2024</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>News Spot</td>
<td>Environment</td>
<td>Manatee County now owns 64 acres of undeveloped riverfront land.</td>
<td>Meghan Bowman</td>
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<td>02/29/2024</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>News Spot</td>
<td>Environment</td>
<td>The Florida Department of Environmental Protection is asking a judge for a partial stay of a ruling in a battle over a decision that shifted permitting authority from the federal government to the state for projects that affect wetlands.</td>
<td>NSF</td>
</tr>
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<td>02/29/2024</td>
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<td>The Florida House has unanimously passed a bill that would allow representatives of certain patriotic organizations to visit schools during class time.</td>
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<td>02/29/2024</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>News Spot</td>
<td>Military</td>
<td>Citizens Property Insurance had about 1-one six million policies as of Friday -- little changed from the end of January.</td>
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<td>02/29/2024</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>News Spot</td>
<td>Economy</td>
<td>A bill that seeks to prevent motorists from cruising in the left lane of highways is headed to Governor Ron DeSantis... but it's not clear yet if he'll sign it.</td>
<td>Tom Urban</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>02/29/2024</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>News Spot</td>
<td>Politics</td>
<td>Governor Ron DeSantis has signed a bill that may shed light on how sex trafficker Jeffery Epstein [EP steen] escaped responsibility for decades.</td>
<td>Tristan Wood, WFSU</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>02/29/2024</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>News Spot</td>
<td>Underserved Communities</td>
<td>On Wednesday, several Democratic lawmakers joined around 100 transgender and non-binary Floridians at the state capitol.</td>
<td>Tom Urban</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>02/29/2024</td>
<td>432</td>
<td>News Spot</td>
<td>Economy</td>
<td>A Florida bill would increase interest rates that payday lenders, like AMSCOT, are allowed to charge.</td>
<td>Gabriella Paul</td>
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<td>News Spot</td>
<td>Politics</td>
<td>Victims of Jeffery Epstein [EP steen] say they're grateful for a bill that may shed light on how he was able to escape justice for so long.</td>
<td>Tristan Wood, WFSU</td>
</tr>
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<td>02/29/2024</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>News Spot</td>
<td>Politics</td>
<td>A plan to term limit county commissioners appears dead.</td>
<td>Lynn Hatter</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>02/29/2024</td>
<td>532</td>
<td>News Spot</td>
<td>Education</td>
<td>The Florida Senate has unanimously passed a bill that would assist high school dropouts who are pursuing diplomas and workforce credentials at state colleges.</td>
<td>WFSU</td>
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<td>02/29/2024</td>
<td>532</td>
<td>News Spot</td>
<td>Economy</td>
<td>A Florida bill would make some loans from payday lenders, like AMSCOT, much more expensive for consumers.</td>
<td>Gabriella Paul</td>
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<td>02/29/2024</td>
<td>544</td>
<td>Interview (2-way)</td>
<td>Health</td>
<td>A Florida bill that would define a fetus as an &quot;unborn child&quot; easily moved through several committee hearings. There's a public health crisis that affects half of all American adults. Its mortality impacts are on par with smoking ... and more severe than obesity.</td>
<td>Cathy Carter</td>
</tr>
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<td>02/29/2024</td>
<td>628</td>
<td>News Spot</td>
<td>Health</td>
<td>An effort to conserve the last large, privately owned parcel of land on the Manatee River began over a year ago.</td>
<td>WLRN</td>
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<td>02/29/2024</td>
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