FLORIDA MATTERS – SECOND QUARTER, 2024
Florida Matters Quarterly report April 1 - June 30, 2024
Time aired: Tuesdays at 6:30 – 7 p.m. on WUSF 89.7 FM; Monday at 10 – 10:30 p.m. on WSMR 89.1 FM

Arts organizations contemplate show cancellations and staff cuts after state budget vetoes
June 25, 2024
Arts organizations around Florida are scrambling to make up budget shortfalls after Gov. Ron DeSantis vetoed $32 million in cultural and museum grants. (Arts, culture, politics)

Black Tampa Bay LGBTQ+ leaders discuss the significance of Juneteenth during Pride Month
June 18, 2024
On this episode of Florida Matters, we spoke with leaders in the greater Tampa Bay region’s Black LGBTQIA community about representation and the importance of both Pride and Juneteenth. (LGBTQ issues, trans rights, minority rights, politics)

Remembering the Skyway Bridge Disaster: A look at what happened 44 years ago
June 11, 2024
On this episode of Florida Matters, we talk with two people involved in the Sunshine Skyway Bridge documentary, including one of the divers who helped recover the victims. (History, transportation, law enforcement)

Two researchers discuss the health impact of vaping: safer but not safe
June 4, 2024
On this episode of "Florida Matters," we talk with experts from FAU and Moffitt Cancer Center about the health impacts of vaping — both on adults and youth. (Health, smoking, teenagers, drug abuse)

In search of the 'Beloved Community': Remembering congressman John Lewis
May 28, 2024
In this episode of "Florida Matters," we speak to Florida historian and professor Raymond Arsenault on his new biography on the late congressman John Lewis. (Minority rights, civil rights, history, politics)

Preparing for the 2024 hurricane season
May 21, 2024
On this episode of Florida Matters, we talk with emergency management leaders from Hillsborough, Pinellas and Hernando counties about how they’re getting ready for hurricane season. (Disaster preparedness, law and order, local readiness)

Lack of regulations for outdoor workers leads to hazardous work environments
May 14, 2024
On this episode of Florida Matters, we explore what the bill means for these workers. We also speak with a journalist about her investigation into the working conditions for hurricane cleanup workers. (Worker’s rights, health, global warming, politics)

Pro-Palestinian protests and the history of protests at USF
May 7, 2024
This week, we speak to WUSF reporters about their experience covering the pro-Palestinian protests on the USF campus, along with two local historians who talk about the history of protests in Tampa and at USF. (Rights to protest, Constitutional rights, law and order, politics, history)

Bob Graham leaves behind a great impact on the Florida environment and wildlife
April 30, 2024
In this episode, we’re talking about Bob Graham’s environmental legacy - including his efforts to protect wild places like the Everglades and other waterways - and wildlife, like the manatee. (Florida history, politics, environmental issues)

Weed the people: recreational marijuana on the ballot in November
April 24, 2024
This November, Floridians will vote yes or no on allowing adults 21 and older to use recreational marijuana. (Florida Constitution, drugs, law and order, health)

An update from teachers on classrooms since 2022 education laws rolled out
April 16, 2024
Teachers have been navigating challenging and confusing times since education laws rolled out in 2022. In this episode, we get an update on what their classrooms have been like since. (K-12 education, teaching, students, politics)

Thaddeus Bullard uses his pro wrestling fame to give back to his community
April 9, 2024
Thaddeus Bullard talks about overcoming poverty, finding fame as professional wrestler Titus O’Neil, and helping the next generation. (Professional sports, minorities, income disparities)
(See Attached Excel Files)