WUSF Public Media

Florida Matters Public Affairs Show

News Stories

Jan. 1 – March 31, 2024

**FLORIDA MATTERS – FIRST QUARTER, 2024**
Florida Matters Quarterly report Jan. 1 - March 31, 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

*Key decisions on a new Rays stadium are still to come*
Mar 26, 2024
The issue of a new ballpark for the Tampa Bay Rays been debated for decades. And in the next few months, make-or-break decisions will be made on the redevelopment plans. (Sports, business, government, politics, minority issues)

*Two Tampa-area women veterans talk about their experiences in the military*
Mar 19, 2024
This week, we speak with two women veterans about their military experiences and opportunities and challenges for women veterans. (Veterans issues, military, government, women)

*Lawmakers send bills targeting social media, sleeping outdoors and homeowners insurance to DeSantis*
Mar 12, 2024
Florida Matters digs into the details of what passed in the 2024 legislative session, what didn't make it through and how it affects Tampa Bay. (Government, politics, education, health care, voting rights)

*Local nonprofit leader is working to decrease homelessness among unaccompanied young people in Tampa*
Mar 5, 2024
A local nonprofit is providing shelter and support to unhoused, unaccompanied youth. A graduate from the program speaks about his experience. (Homelessness, youth, nonprofits, government, minority issues)
Dalia Colón celebrates 'citrus, seafood, Spanish flavor, and Southern charm' in her new cookbook
Feb 27, 2024
Dalia Colón talks with Florida Matters about hosting The Zest podcast and releasing her new cookbook, "The Florida Vegetarian Cookbook." (Food, history, minority culture)

A conversation with Tampa City Council member Gwen Henderson about books, politics and education
Feb 22, 2024
As Florida changed its Black history curriculum and removed books from public schools, first-time Tampa City Councilwoman Gwen Henderson pushed back and opened a bookstore. (Minority issues, education, history, business)

A lifetime spent fighting for equality: A conversation with Arthenia Joyner
Feb 21, 2024
Former State Sen. Arthenia Joyner talks with Florida Matters about her trailblazing career in law and politics. (Politics, legal issues, minorities, black history)

Politics is just one place where two Black Tampa leaders are making a mark
Feb 20, 2024
This week, we are talking with two Black women who are leaders in the community and who have each taken a different approach to politics. (Minorities, black history, politics)

What it means to be a Blerd - and why it's cool now
Feb 13, 2024
Four self-proclaimed Blerds discuss what Blerd culture is and how the Black lived experience affects artforms associated with nerdom, like comics and cosplay. (Black culture, alternative entertainment, nerdism)

Ignoring big legislative issues will allow them to 'fester,' warns former senator Jeff Brandes
Feb 6, 2024
Legislative priorities for lawmakers in Tallahassee this year include increasing the number of health care providers in Florida and clamping down on children's social media use. (Politics, law and order, education, health care, insurance)

What DeSantis' exit from the presidential race means for Florida
Jan 31, 2024
Florida Gov. Ron DeSantis crashed out of the Republican presidential preference primary after the Iowa caucuses. NBC's Matt Dixon explains what that means for voters and lawmakers in the Sunshine State. (Politics, legislature, culture wars, education)

County Supervisors of Elections talk about everything voters need to know about voting in 2024
Jan 30, 2024
Supervisors of elections from Hillsborough, Pasco and Pinellas counties talk about everything voters need to know for 2024, including new voting laws. (Voting rights, democracy, politics, civic duty)

Florida's new financial disclosure rules get praise, even as city leaders resign in protest
Jan 23, 2024
Those who have quit because of the law say it’s onerous, invasive and an example of government overreach from the state. Some government accountability experts say it promotes transparency. (Politics, legislature, financial issues, democracy)

How evictions affect the Tampa Bay region’s most vulnerable residents
Jan. 16, 2024
An eviction on your record can make it tough to find a place to live. But fighting the eviction in court can be costly. And it doesn’t always help. (Homeowner’s rights, renter’s rights, legal issues, legislature, financial issues)

DeSantis focuses on national issues in State of the State speech
Jan 9, 2024
DeSantis launched the 60 day session with a speech that touched on issues like immigration, education, and law enforcement, and appeared pitched to primary state voters as much as Floridians. (Politics, legislature, education, health care, immigration)

The best conversations of 2023 on Florida Matters
Jan 2, 2024
Florida Matters looks back at some of the best conversations we had with newsmakers from our region. (Politics, education, health care, environment, transportation, voting rights)

Quarterly Issues Report
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(See Attached Excel Files)