

WJCT-FM 89.9
Jacksonville, Florida
QUARTERLY PROGRAM TOPIC REPORT
Q1: Jan 1, 2021 - March 31, 2021

LOCAL PROGRAMMING

Healthcare

Series Title: "First Coast Connect with Melissa Ross: COVID Restrictions"

Airdate: 3/30/21

Duration: 52:56

Discussion: A number of cities and states around the country are easing back on their pandemic lockdown rules. Jacksonville is one of them. Mayor Lenny Curry allowed Duval County's mask mandate to expire last week. However, with COVID cases beginning to rise again, President Joe Biden and the CDC have urged the public to keep wearing masks. Dr. Sunil Joshi, president of the Duval County Medical Society Foundation, joined us with his thoughts on the subject.

Education

Series Title: "First Coast Connect with Melissa Ross: Teacher Retention Research"

Air date: 3/8/21

Duration: 52:55

Discussion: The Jacksonville Public Education Fund has released new research on teacher retention in Duval County. Jacksonville Public Education Fund President Rachael Tutwiler Fortune and Darryl Willie, Vice Chair of the Duval County School Board and former Executive Director of Teach for America in Jacksonville, joined us with more.

Minority Issues

Series Title: "First Coast Connect with Melissa Ross: School Name Change Controversy"

Air date: 3/29/21

Duration: 52:55

Discussion: The Duval County Public Schools district is continuing an intense local discussion about renaming nine public schools. Most of the school names have associations with the Confederacy. Kimberly Allen is the Executive Director of 904WARD, an organization with a mission to end racism in Jacksonville. She joined to discuss renaming the schools.

Environment

Series Title: "First Coast Connect with Melissa Ross: Climate Change in Jax "

Airdate: 3/9/21

Duration: 52:55

Discussion: The Jacksonville City Council's Special Committee on Resiliency has unanimously approved its final report, which outlines many of the threats climate change poses to Jacksonville, and lays out recommended actions the city can take to protect itself. The 90-plus page report will serve as the foundation for the work that will be done by the city's future Chief

Resiliency Officer. We spoke to City Councilwoman Randy Defoor, Chair of the City Council's Special Committee on Resiliency; Adam Rosenblatt, a biology professor at the University of North Florida, who is also a subject matter expert for the resiliency committee and a co-founder of the Jacksonville Chapter of the Citizens Climate Lobby; and Ashantae Green, Supervisor of Duval Soil & Water Conservation District Group 4. She is also a subject matter expert for the resiliency committee, and the outreach and communications coordinator for the advocacy group Resilient Jax.

Politics

Series Title: "First Coast Connect with Melissa Ross: Protest Bill Controversy"

Airdate: 3/17/21

Duration: 52:55

Discussion: A bill that seeks to prevent violence at protests is moving through the Legislature. However, it has drawn strong bipartisan criticism around Florida. The bill is supported by Gov. Ron DeSantis. Opponents say it would criminalize free speech and run against the First Amendment. Patricia Brigham, president of the League of Women Voters of Florida joined us with more on this bill.