

WJCT News 89.9

Quarterly Issues Report

2023 Quarter 4

Oct. 1 - Dec. 31, 2023

At least nine times each weekday, WJCT News 89.9 airs local newscasts with news affecting Northeast Florida and Southeast Georgia, produced by the WJCT News team and radio partners across the state.

WJCT News 89.9 also produces and airs three hour-long talk shows: *First Coast Connect* (our live call-in show that airs weekdays at 9 a.m., 7 p.m. and 4 a.m.) and *What's Health Got to Do With It?* (a pre-produced talk show that airs Saturdays at 4 p.m.)

First Coast Connect - First Coast Connect is an hour-long call-in program that features local newsmakers, civic and community leaders, artists and people planning a variety of events across Northeast Florida, along with a roundtable of local media personalities and civic leaders each Friday.

"Kent Stermon; Jacksonville's consolidation; JWN Speaker Forum; Jaguars in London" Oct. 2. Investigation sheds light on GOP donor Kent Stermon; it's been 55 years since Jacksonville's consolidation; Jacksonville Women's Network sponsors speaker forum; Jaguars notch victory in London.

"Former Duval Schools Superintendent Diana Greene; TEDx Jacksonville; Le'Keian Woods' arrest" 10/3. Diana Greene discusses her latest work; TEDx Jacksonville begins next week; the violent arrest of Le'Keian Woods gets national scrutiny.

"Domestic Violence Awareness Month; Jacksonville's historic casket factory; graffiti street art show" 10/4. Hubbard House brings attention to domestic violence; music museum planned for casket factory; the NO TRESPASSING Graffiti Street Art Show is coming Friday.

"Banned Book Week; Arlington home tour; JME; Limitless Dragons" 10/5. Local experts discuss book bans and how they affect neighborhood bookstores; the Arlington Mod & More Home Tour returns for its seventh year; the Jacksonville Music Experience talks with singer-songwriter Madison Hughes; meet the Limitless Dragons Breast Cancer dragon boat team.

"Friday Media Roundtable: Le'Keian Woods' arrest; Regency Square Mall; rising evictions; JME'S Top Picks" 10/6. Our media panel discusses the controversial arrest of Le'Keian Woods, the sale of Regency Square Mall and a dramatic increase in evictions. Plus: three new songs on the Independent.

“Beaches resident roundtable; Sweet Pete’s; Jacksonville Jaguars” 10/9. This Monday on First Coast Connect, we rounded up our neighbors from Jacksonville’s Beaches. They are everyday people who joined us to talk about what it’s like to live and work in the Beaches.

“Mayor Donna Deegan; Cyber security” 10/10. Mayor Donna Deegan joined us today on First Coast Connect, shortly after her 100th day in office. She discussed her work so far, as well as her goals for the future.

“Foster Youth Voice Month; FinTech Symposium; ‘Ring of fire’ solar eclipse” 10/11. October is Foster Youth Voice Month, a time devoted to giving children in the foster care system a voice.

“Dyslexia; Best Jax events; Grammy-nominated cellist Dave Eggar” 10/12. It’s estimated that 20% of people have some level of dyslexia, which accounts for 80–90% of all learning disabilities. But like many other cities in the U.S., Jacksonville has limited support resources to offer dyslexic students.

“Friday Media Roundtable; welcoming new host Anne Schindler” 10/13. As we do every Friday, we discussed the week’s most important news with members of the local media. And we announced our new permanent host!

“Breast cancer awareness; author Alan Paul; another Jags’ victory” 10/16. We take a closer look at breast cancer and how it has affected some residents on the First Coast. Then: Alan Paul discusses his new book about the Allman Brothers, and we review the Jaguars’ win over the Indianapolis Colts.

“Operation New Hope; JME; UNF cannabis courses; Jacksonville Civic Orchestra” 10/17. Operation New Hope expands into Clay County jail; Jacksonville Music Experience previews two documentaries; UNF teaches about cannabis in health care; the Civic Orchestra of Jacksonville gives its last performance of the season.

“Urban farming; St. Augustine shipwreck; LOL Film Festival” 10/18. A group of urban farmers teaches us how to grow our own food; archaeologists unearth a 19th century shipwreck in St. Augustine; the Jax 48 Hour Film Festival returns.

“See the Girl Summit; JEA and EVs; All Them Witches; Northside Autumn Festival” 10/19. We talk with community leaders about how to elevate girls’ rights; JEA creates an incentive program for EVs; the Jacksonville Music Experience talks with All Them Witches; the annual Autumn Festival is back.

“Friday Media Roundtable: Duval superintendent search, Camden shooting, Regency Square Mall, Ameris Bank” 10/20. Our media panel discusses Duval’s decision to suspend its search for a schools superintendent. Plus other news this week: a traffic suspect killed in Camden County, a potential buyer for Regency Square Mall and alleged redlining by Ameris Bank.

“JASMYN CEO Cindy Watson; Valiant Soldiers; JU Climate Challenge” 10/23. Cindy Watson is retiring as CEO of JASMYN; Thomas Graham discusses his latest book about soldiers of color in the Civil War era; Jacksonville University considers climate change ideas in a Shark Tank-style competition.

“School Board member Darryl Willie; Arc Jacksonville; Florida-Georgia Week; city of Jacksonville Career Fair” 10/24. Darryl Willie talks about the school district's challenges and plans; Arc Jacksonville has a new program to help the developmentally disabled; Florida-Georgia Week returns to Jax; the city looks to hire on Thursday.

“Blue Zones Project; Elevate Jacksonville; Cummer Museum; Porchfest” 10/25 Jacksonville embraces Blue Zones principles to create a healthier community; Elevate Jacksonville provides students with life skills; the Cummer presents Tattoos in Japanese Prints; Porchfest is back in Springfield.

“Dr. Jesse Ehrenfeld, AMA president; Revive dance; Jax events” 10/26 AMA President Jesse Ehrenfeld discusses the state of health care; the renovated Florida Theatre hosts the dance presentation Revive; Cre8Jax lists the best weekend events.

“Friday Media Roundtable; Nightmare on Bay Street” 10/27 Our media panel discusses the mass shooting in Maine, the arrest of a Jacksonville police officer, Mayor Donna Deegan's controversial no-bid contract, and Florida-Georgia Week. And then: a preview of Nightmare on Bay Street.

“Marsy's Law; Noirvember film celebration; Jaguars' triumph” 10/30 Two guests discuss Florida's controversial Marsy's law. Then, get ready for Film Noir classics at Sun-Ray Cinema. And finally: The Jacksonville Jaguars win again.

“Pollution in Brunswick; Emerald Trail progress; Jacksonville's haunted history” 10/31 Toxic chemicals flow in Brunswick, Georgia; the Emerald Trail sees more progress; spirits haunt Jax on Halloween.

“Redlining in Jacksonville; 'woke' perspectives; Untold Stories” 11/1 First Coast Connect explores pervasive redlining in Jacksonville; Will Brown of Jacksonville Today discusses racial concerns over the word "woke"; Untold Stories is set for the restored Florida Theatre.

“A resilient Jax; Tristyn Bailey Foundation; Beyond King Tut” 11/2 First Coast Connect welcomes the city's chief resilience officer, Anne Coglianese, to talk about coping with climate change. Also, Brittney and Stacey Bailey discuss the work of the Tristyn Bailey Foundation. Then we commemorate the 101st anniversary of the discovery of King Tut's tomb.

“First Coast week in review; Duval Tides rugby team” 11/3 Among the topics this week: The DOJ oversees the arrest of Le'Keian Woods; the head of the Duval teachers union retires; and girls rugby come to Jax.

"Medical Examiner's Office pushback; Get Covered Jax; Road planning; FIRST LEGO League" 11/6 Tuesday on First Coast Connect, Anne sat down with Metro Gardens Neighborhood Association President Lydia Bell and David Bauerlein of The Florida Times-Union to discuss the controversy over a new Medical Examiner's Office building and the Neighborhood Bill of Rights.

"State of Downtown Report; Florida flamingo mystery; college football" 11/7 Monday on First Coast Connect: 2023 State of Downtown Jacksonville Report and one writer's quest to find a Florida flamingo.

"How do cellphones affect our children's brains?" 11/8 Today on First Coast Connect, we examine how technology and social media affect the development of children's brains, as well as explore the reasons why schools are banning cellphone use in classrooms.

"Why you should care if your pharmacist is burned out" 11/9 Today on "First Coast Connect," we talk about pharmacist burnout and the effect on patient care. Then we interview William Shatner about his new Florida Theatre show — "William Shatner Live on Stage with Star Trek II: The Wrath of Khan." Finally: We preview Jacksonville's Veterans Day Parade and all the other events this weekend.

"First Coast Week in Review; JME's top picks" 11/10 Our "First Coast Connect" panel discusses the week's top news, including plans for a single King Day event — the first time in years.

"Assessing the pros and cons of artificial intelligence" 11/13 We sit down with two experts in artificial intelligence and a high school teacher to discuss how AI is reshaping our lives. Then later, we get updates on the First Coast Connect Book Club and the Jaguars' disappointing game on Sunday.

"The false narratives surrounding Jacksonville's indigenous people" 11/14 We explore the inaccurate beliefs that have influenced the historical narrative of Jacksonville's indigenous past. Then later, we talk with two outstanding crime writers, and we explain the importance of World Cord Blood Day.

"Our monthly chat with Jacksonville Mayor Donna Deegan" 11/15 Deegan takes questions from the public about her priorities, resilience efforts, no-bid contracts, health care and more. Then we talk with Jacksonville indie band Black Kids and the organizers of Freed to Run.

"An update on the case against two former JEA executives" 11/6 Nate Monroe, metro columnist at the Florida Times-Union, joined us to discuss the federal trial against former JEA CEO Aaron Zahn and former CFO Ryan Wannemacher. Later, we heard about a new housing program funded by United Way; the work of Lutheran Social Services to resettle refugees; and the Mister Rogers Sweater Drive.

"First Coast Week in Review; JME's top picks" 11/17 Our media experts explore the week's top stories, followed by JME bringing you music to groove into the weekend.

"The mirror issues of mental health and homelessness" 11/20 State Rep. Sam Garrison and Assistant Public Defender Teri Sopp stopped by to talk about how mental health and homelessness intersect. Then, we discussed the Sunbeam Trail, an endeavor to transform an old landfill into a biking and hiking destination, and finally a recap on yesterday's Jacksonville Jaguars victory.

"The history of the Gullah Geechee culture" 11/21 Today, we explored the deep-rooted history of the Gullah Geechee community and its strong ties to St. Johns County. We then learned about a program designed to support the financial well-being of military members. Later, playwright and musician Jennifer Chase gave us a sneak peek into her upcoming retrospective performance."

"The First Thanksgiving in historic St. Augustine" 11/22 Today we delved into the rich history of the first Thanksgiving in the historic setting of St. Augustine. Then listen to our exclusive discussion with Florida State's women's head soccer coach, Brian Pensky, as we preview their upcoming game and undefeated season.

"Reflecting on a decade of literary excellence" 11/27 Today, we took a journey through a decade of literary brilliance as Tim Gilmore and Darlyn Kuhn reflected on the JaxbyJax Literary Arts Festival. But first: We explored the details of the 35-year-old Baby Jane Doe case in Ware County, Georgia.

"'Justice Pursued' — the 43-year wrongful imprisonment of Nathan Myers and Clifford Williams" 11/28 Today we discussed "Justice Pursued," a new book by Bruce Horovitz. The book documents the gripping story of Nathan Myers and Clifford Williams, who were wrongly convicted of murder in 1976 in Jacksonville. Later, we talked about the life of folk musician Gamble Rogers.

"Update on the federal case against two former JEA executives" Florida Times Union columnist Nate Monroe updated us on the criminal case of JEA executives Aaron Zahn and Ryan Wannemacher. Then, we talked with Nick Allard about the new home for Jacksonville's only law school.

"Media critic Margaret Sullivan on the importance of local journalism" 11/30 Margaret Sullivan, a renowned media critic, discusses her latest book, "Ghosting the News: Local Journalism and the Crisis of American Democracy." Then, Artist Connection Theatre shares details about its upcoming production, "White Christmas."

"First Coast Week in Review; JME's Songwriting School" 12/1 Our First Coast Week in Review panel discussed the biggest stories of the week, including Jacksonville's decision to buy the site of a controversial liquor store. Then, JME contributor Hurley Winkler sat down with artist Rickolus to talk about the release of his new song.

"How the Duval school district manages complaints" 12/4 We sat down with an attorney and an alumnus of Douglas Anderson School of the Arts to discuss exactly how the Duval school

district addresses complaints about teachers. Then, we talked all things film with Gregory von Hausch, president and CEO of the St. Augustine Film Festival.

"Florida's Free Kill Law and its effect on medical malpractice claims" 12/5 We explore the details of Florida's Free Kill Law, a controversial piece of legislation that allows only the spouse or child of a deceased person to seek damages in cases of medical malpractice resulting in death. Then, we sit down with folk musician Chelsea Saddler to talk about her upcoming album.

"A story of medical imprisonment" 12/6 Maya Kowlaski was the plaintiff in a high-profile medical imprisonment case featured in Netflix's documentary "Take Care of Maya." Just a month after winning a landmark legal fight with her First Coast attorney, she joins us to discuss the case, its effect and the journey to justice. Then, we talk with aviation experts about how pilot shortages are affecting travelers.

"A groundbreaking songwriting program at Douglas Anderson" 12/7 Today we introduce the new songwriting program at Douglas Anderson School of the Arts. Then, Tim Gilmore, Jacksonville author and FSCJ English professor, spotlights Mildred Barnert's sleep-in protest at the school in the 1960s.

"First Coast Week in Review, plus JME's favorite songs" 12/8 Today we discuss the week's biggest headlines with some of the smartest minds in local journalism. Then, JME gives us their 23 favorite local songs of 2023.

"ICARE's plan to tackle violence in Jacksonville" 12/9 We explore how an interfaith group is fighting gun violence in Jacksonville. Then comedian Lewis Black stops by to give us a preview of his upcoming tour starting right here at the Florida Theatre on Friday.

"Jacksonville's MLK breakfasts reunite" 12/12 After five years, the city's two MLK breakfasts are reuniting. We talk to key players about the decision. Then, there is trouble in Toyland. Consumer watchdog Teresa Murray stops by to explain what we should keep in mind when buying toys this holiday season.

"Our monthly Q&A with Mayor Donna Deegan" 12/13 The community poses questions directly to Jacksonville Mayor Donna Deegan in what we titled "Ask the Mayor." Then, urban planner Ennis Davis enlightens us with a history lesson on LaVilla, recognized as the Harlem of the South.

"Property law and ensuring your legacy" 12/14 In the wake of a family member's passing, the common assumption is that their property will smoothly transfer to heirs, whether children or a spouse. Yet, complications surface in the absence of a will. We discuss how to avoid pitfalls. Then later in the show, singer and songwriter John Paul White joins us to discuss his career and upcoming performance.

“First Coast Week in Review, plus the Queen's Six” 12/15 Today we discuss the week's top headlines with four local journalists. Then, the Queen's Six discusses their upcoming performance at St. Paul's by the Sea Episcopal Church.

“Florida's new era in sports gambling” 12/16 We analyze the evolving landscape of sports gambling in Florida, investigating the societal and financial implications of these changes. After that, Lexie Zeller from Lakeview Health shares tips on maintaining sober etiquette during the holiday season.

“The importance of the Laura Street Trio” 12/17 Today we talk with passionate advocates of the Laura Street Trio, exploring their reasons for urging the city to preserve this iconic landmark. After that, we delve into the adventurous journey of two friends who embarked on a quest to attend 52 concerts this year.

“The new uses of off-label drugs” 12/20 Dr. Joe Sirven and Dr. Natchya Mallory share insights on the weight loss drug Ozempic. Then, Jacksonville Today reporter Will Brown explores the life of civil rights patriarch Lloyd Pearson. Finally, we hear about two efforts to revitalize North Springfield and Downtown.

“The 'Through Our Lenses' film festival” 12/21 We speak with key players behind the upcoming film festival "Through Our Lenses," which is spreading awareness of inequalities within the LGBTQ community. Then our good friend Yaya Cardona shares all the events going on in Jacksonville this week.

“First Coast Year in Review” 12/22 Our media panels look back at the year's biggest headlines. Then, JME contributors share their favorite albums of 2023.

What's Health Got to Do with It? - a weekly talk program that examines the intersection of healthcare and daily life. It helps guide listeners through an increasingly convoluted medical bureaucracy.

“How Jacksonville's new health officer will advance local care” 10/7 Dr. Sunil Joshi, the city's chief health officer, discusses his plans for addressing health disparities and improving the health of residents.

“Diversity in health care; ElevateMed” 10/14 This week, we speak with individuals who are committed to tearing down barriers in health care through representation.

“Helping children to see the world clearly” 10/21 This week on What's Health Got To Do With It, we learn about the fascinating field of pediatric eye health.

“A conversation with Dr. Jesse Ehrenfeld of the American Medical Association” 10/28 Ehrenfeld discusses a wide range of topics including the COVID-19 pandemic, politics in the medical community and the AMA's role in shaping American health care.

“Medical roundtable; Breast Cancer Awareness Month” 11/4 This week, our esteemed medical roundtable delves into the forefront of healthcare, dissecting the latest advancements and trends.

“Alzheimer's and pancreatic cancer: Two formidable adversaries” 11/11 November is a month of shared recognition for both diseases. We explore the health landscape for each.

“Raising awareness of epilepsy, and thoughts for your Thanksgiving celebration” 11/18 November is a month we come together to shine a spotlight on epilepsy awareness. Then, we get some food for thought to keep in mind this holiday season.

“Nurse practitioners: Crucial providers on the frontlines” 11/25 We are honored to have Stephen Ferrara, president of the American Association of Nurse Practitioners, and Kelly Rojas, a doctor of nursing practice student, guiding us through the pivotal role of nurse practitioners in the post-COVID health care landscape. Then, as we approach the holiday season, stay tuned for some mindful tips to navigate the festivities with licensed clinical social worker Lindsey Bennett.

“Health care roundtable: Syphilis surge, life expectancy and vaccinations” 12/2 In this week's health care roundup, our expert panel discusses pressing issues like a sharp rise in syphilis cases, the widening gender gap in life expectancy and the intricacies of COVID-19 vaccination efforts.

“Unlocking the secrets of quality sleep” 12/9 Today we explore the power of sleep with neuroscientist Dr. Eti Ben-Simon from UC Berkeley and gain practical tips from sleep specialist Dr. Dennis Soresso. From adapting to daylight saving time to the link between sleep and mental health, we unravel the secrets to a good night's sleep.

“Holographic models and 3D printers in neurosurgery” 12/16 We explore the future of neurosurgery with advanced technologies like holographic models and 3D printers, which bring precision and personalized approaches to every procedure. Dr. Bernard Bendok discusses the effect on patient outcomes. Then, author Kenneth Miller takes us on a journey into sleep science, revealing the mysteries of sleep in his latest book, "Mapping the Darkness."

“The wonderful power of music” 12/23 We explore the incredible benefits of music beyond just being good for the soul. We dive into how music supports mental health and aids in managing neurological disorders. From easing challenges to boosting overall well-being, music proves to be a powerful tool for healing.

“Reflecting on 2023: A year in health care” 12/30 We recount 2023 in health care — from global progress on COVID-19 to rising syphilis rates, the debate about a suicide hotline and federal leadership in women's health. Then, epidemiologist Jeremy Howick demystifies the power of placebos.