

WLRN NEWS

WLRN News Two dozen times each weekday - and also on weekends, as needed - our journalists report the stories that affect all of us living in South Florida. This multiple-award-winning team is led by Vice President of News Tom Hudson, News Director Terence Shepherd and Editorial Director Alicia Zuckerman. They are supported by 19 journalists including digital and engagement editors and producers. WLRN continues to partner with the Miami Herald news organization as well as with other Florida public radio stations.

The Florida News Exchange Founded and managed by WLRN, this cloud-based exchange platform is a nexus for Florida news: partner public radio stations around the state share their coverage with each other, supplementing the scope of locally and regionally focused reporting and broadening Florida listener's knowledge and awareness.

ONGOING PROGRAMS

The Florida Roundup <https://www.wlrn.org/programs/florida-roundup>
Each week Tom Hudson of WLRN in Miami and Melissa Ross of WJCT in Jacksonville, along with journalists and news makers from around the state, discuss the news of Florida over the past 7 days. The hour-long program is broadcast Fridays at 12 noon and shared with other Florida public broadcasting stations. Listeners can join the conversation by telephone, email, posting to our Facebook page or via Twitter at #FLroundup. The program also is available as a podcast.

Recent topics include:

9/25/2020 49:15

<https://www.wlrn.org/podcast/the-florida-roundup/2020-09-25/governors-law-order-proposal-gains-statewide-supporters-and-detractors>

9/18/2020 49:22

<https://www.wlrn.org/podcast/the-florida-roundup/2020-09-18/floridas-seniors-are-sharply-divided-on-presidential-election>

9/11/2020 48:57

<https://www.wlrn.org/podcast/the-florida-roundup/2020-09-11/presidential-campaigns-court-floridas-diverse-latino-voters>

9/04/2020 49:21

<https://www.wlrn.org/podcast/the-florida-roundup/2020-09-04/vote-by-mail-lessons-learned-from-floridas-2020-primary-election>

8/28/2020 49:30

<https://www.wlrn.org/podcast/the-florida-roundup/2020-08-28/florida-teachers-balance-safety-and-instruction-as-pandemic-lingers>

8/22/2020 49:30

<https://www.wlrn.org/podcast/the-florida-roundup/2020-08-22/how-florida-returns-to-school-is-in-litigation-limbo>

8/14/2020 49:30

<https://www.wlrn.org/podcast/the-florida-roundup/2020-08-17/the-tale-of-two-floridas-one-fears-the-coronavirus-the-other-does-not>

8/7/2020 49:20

<https://www.wlrn.org/show/the-florida-roundup/2020-08-07/gov-desantis-names-task-force-focused-on-easing-nursing-home-visit-restrictions>

7/31/2020 38:16

<https://www.wlrn.org/show/the-florida-roundup/2020-07-31/moratorium-helps-some-floridians-avoid-eviction-and-foreclosure>

7/24/2020 49:23

<https://www.wlrn.org/show/the-florida-roundup/2020-07-24/how-has-gov-ron-desantis-done-as-the-pandemic-continues-poll-shows-not-great>

7/17/2020 49:14

<https://www.wlrn.org/show/the-florida-roundup/2020-07-17/florida-teachers-and-parents-anxiously-await-school-board-reopening-decisions>

7/10/2020 49:24

<https://www.wlrn.org/show/the-florida-roundup/2020-07-10/infectious-disease-experts-criticize-floridas-containment-efforts>

7/3/2020 49:09

<https://www.wlrn.org/show/the-florida-roundup/2020-07-03/the-future-of-a-mendment-4-moves-to-appeals-court>

The South Florida Roundup

<https://www.wlrn.org/programs/south-florida-roundup> Each week a panel of journalists and newsmakers from South Florida and around the state discuss the week in news. Broadcast Fridays at 1 pm and rebroadcast Saturday mornings at 6 am, the hour-long program is hosted by WLRN Vice President of News, Tom Hudson, and periodically by WLRN anchors and reporters. Listeners can join the conversation by telephone, email, posting to our Facebook page or tweeting @WLRN.

Recent Topics include:

9/25/2020 50:54

<https://www.wlrn.org/podcast/the-south-florida-roundup/2020-09-25/broward-schools-reopening-talks-continue-as-the-election-nears>

9/18/2020 50:57

<https://www.wlrn.org/podcast/the-south-florida-roundup/2020-09-18/the-return-to-south-florida-classrooms-as-counties-move-into-phase-two>

9/11/2020 50:59

<https://www.wlrn.org/podcast/the-south-florida-roundup/2020-09-11/south-florida-hosts-presidential-campaigns-as-covid-19-economic-recovery-continues>

9/4/2020 51:03

<https://www.wlrn.org/podcast/the-south-florida-roundup/2020-09-04/miami-dade-palm-beach-school-districts-prepare-for-reopening-soon>

8/28/2020 50:52

<https://www.wlrn.org/podcast/the-south-florida-roundup/2020-08-28/is-miami-dade-county-ready-to-reopen-indoor-dining-rooms>

8/22/2020 50:50

[https://www.wlrn.org/podcast/the-south-florida-roundup/2020-08-22/what-t
he-august-primary-could-mean-for-voting-in-future-elections](https://www.wlrn.org/podcast/the-south-florida-roundup/2020-08-22/what-t
he-august-primary-could-mean-for-voting-in-future-elections)

8/14/2020 49:54

[https://www.wlrn.org/podcast/the-south-florida-roundup/2020-08-17/heard-
on-the-south-florida-roundup-the-closely-watched-primary-races-with-elect
ion-day-on-tuesday](https://www.wlrn.org/podcast/the-south-florida-roundup/2020-08-17/heard-
on-the-south-florida-roundup-the-closely-watched-primary-races-with-elect
ion-day-on-tuesday)

8/7/2020 51:49

[https://www.wlrn.org/show/the-south-florida-roundup/2020-08-07/driving-d
ade-countys-future-a-forum-with-four-mayoral-candidates](https://www.wlrn.org/show/the-south-florida-roundup/2020-08-07/driving-d
ade-countys-future-a-forum-with-four-mayoral-candidates)

7/31/2020 50:39

[https://www.wlrn.org/show/the-south-florida-roundup/2020-07-31/hurrican
e-isaias-expected-to-test-flood-projection-projects-installed-after-hurricane
-irma](https://www.wlrn.org/show/the-south-florida-roundup/2020-07-31/hurrican
e-isaias-expected-to-test-flood-projection-projects-installed-after-hurricane
-irma)

7/24/2020 50:48

[https://www.wlrn.org/show/the-south-florida-roundup/2020-07-24/extra-fed
eral-unemployment-benefit-set-to-expire-could-affect-thousands-of-south-f
loridians](https://www.wlrn.org/show/the-south-florida-roundup/2020-07-24/extra-fed
eral-unemployment-benefit-set-to-expire-could-affect-thousands-of-south-f
loridians)

7/14/2020 50:40

[https://www.wlrn.org/show/the-south-florida-roundup/2020-07-17/is-anothe
r-shutdown-in-store-for-south-florida](https://www.wlrn.org/show/the-south-florida-roundup/2020-07-17/is-anothe
r-shutdown-in-store-for-south-florida)

7/10/2020 50:56

[https://www.wlrn.org/show/the-south-florida-roundup/2020-07-10/south-flo
rida-hospitals-face-coronavirus-spike-patient-increase](https://www.wlrn.org/show/the-south-florida-roundup/2020-07-10/south-flo
rida-hospitals-face-coronavirus-spike-patient-increase)

7/3/2020 50:55

[https://www.wlrn.org/show/the-south-florida-roundup/2020-07-03/south-flo
rida-tourism-copes-with-fourth-of-july-coronavirus-restrictions](https://www.wlrn.org/show/the-south-florida-roundup/2020-07-03/south-flo
rida-tourism-copes-with-fourth-of-july-coronavirus-restrictions)

The Sunshine Economy <http://wlrn.org/programs/sunshine-economy>

Each week, WLRN's Vice President of News, Tom Hudson, hosts The Sunshine Economy, which takes a fresh look at key industries transforming South Florida into a regional powerhouse. From investments in health care, storm preparedness, international trade, real estate and technology-based start-ups, listeners tune in to learn more about one of the world's most vibrant and diverse economies. The Sunshine Economy is on hiatus over the summer months. The rest of the year this hour long program airs Mondays at 9:00 am and 7:00 pm.

Recent Topics include:

9/28/2020 49:15

<https://www.wlrn.org/podcast/the-sunshine-economy/2020-09-28/the-sunshine-economy-how-hotels-hope-to-rebound-from-covid-19>

9/21/2020 49:01

<https://www.wlrn.org/podcast/the-sunshine-economy/2020-09-21/the-sunshine-economy-how-can-the-restaurant-business-bounce-back-from-covid-19>

9/14/2020 48:00

<https://www.wlrn.org/podcast/the-sunshine-economy/2020-09-14/sunshine-economy-k12-responds-to-critics-pandemic-economy-wears-on>

The Latin America Report <http://wlrn.org/programs/latin-america-report>

WLRN's coverage of the region is headed by Americas editor **Tim Padgett**, a 23-year veteran of TIME and Newsweek magazines. He joins a team of reporters and editors at the Miami Herald, El Nuevo Herald and NPR to cover a region whose cultural wealth, environmental complexity, vast agricultural output and massive oil reserves offer no shortage of important and fascinating stories to tell. The Latin America Report airs each Tuesday on WLRN.

Recent Topics include:

9/29/2020 7:45

<https://www.wlrn.org/2020-09-22/is-colombia-interfering-in-the-u-s-election-in-florida-with-tactics-it-exported-to-florida>

9/22/2020 7:45

<https://www.wlrn.org/2020-09-22/is-colombia-interfering-in-the-u-s-election-in-florida-with-tactics-it-exported-to-florida>

9/14/2020 4:53

<https://www.wlrn.org/2020-09-14/venezuelan-medical-workers-dying-of-covid-19-at-alarming-rate-how-can-the-world-get-ppe-to-them>

9/7/2020 4:59

<https://www.wlrn.org/2020-09-07/is-the-western-hemispheres-most-important-development-bank-headed-for-a-radical-change>

8/31/2020 4:55

<https://www.wlrn.org/2020-08-31/why-a-proposal-to-rename-a-miami-street-for-a-former-colombian-president-is-so-controversial>

8/24/2020 5:00

<https://www.wlrn.org/2020-08-24/calling-colombians-with-florida-in-play-trump-and-biden-reach-out-to-a-latino-sleeping-elephant>

8/17/2020 4:50

<https://www.wlrn.org/podcast/latin-america-report/2020-08-17/marriage-punishment-u-s-citizens-wed-to-immigrants-fight-for-federal-benefits-trump-denied-them>

7/27/2020 4:44

<https://www.wlrn.org/show/latin-america-report/2020-07-27/venezuelas-health-system-was-already-destroyed-now-comes-the-covid-calamity>

7/20/2020 5:00

<https://www.wlrn.org/podcast/latin-america-report/2020-07-20/cuban-sandwich-saga-hialeah-native-stars-in-popular-hamilton-parody-jamonton>

7/13/2020 4:59

<https://www.wlrn.org/show/latin-america-report/2020-07-13/expats-ask-is-t>

[rumps-venezuela-campaign-under-control-or-under-chaos](#)

7/6/2020 4:56

<https://www.wlrn.org/show/latin-america-report/2020-07-06/small-uruguay-is-big-proof-that-committing-to-public-health-can-contain-covid-19>

SPECIALS & PROJECTS

Interns <http://wlrn.org/term/wlrn-interns> WLRN invests in developing young journalists throughout the year. We regularly interview and select a diverse array of current and recent college students interested in developing their skills in a newsroom that trains them to function as professional journalists. They are paid during their stint at the station and emerge from the experience with increased confidence, skill, knowledge and portfolios of their work. Summer interns at WLRN News were:

Amber Amortegui, Palm Beach Atlantic University
Natalia Clement, Florida International University

WLRN On Instagram: Your Election Connection.

Three Conversations About The Election You Don't Want To Miss is a new outreach effort by WLRN's engagement producer to serve voters that may well stay home and vote by mail this Nov. 3rd. Our invitation reads: We want to come together to talk about three things: what you'll see on your ballot (Hint: there are a lot more races than the presidential contest), how to vote by mail, and what mis- and disinformation campaigns look like. We invite you to join us to discuss these topics in-depth on Instagram Live. In each live stream, we'll have a Q&A discussion with a member of our news team, a local expert and — of course — you. So bring your questions and thoughts and we'll see you on Instagram! When: 7 p.m. on Monday, Sept. 28, Tuesday, Oct. 6 and Tuesday, Oct. 13

Amendment 4: Tracking the Restoration of Felons Voting Rights

Amendment 4 passed in November 2018 with nearly 65 percent of the vote. It was intended to restore voting rights to felons that had served their time. Implementation was to begin in 2019 but WLRN's reporting was well ahead of national and local media addressing how financial obligations could throw a wrench into what many thought was a major voting rights

victory. We revealed the problem of how different jurisdictions policies and procedures made determining an individual's right to vote "near impossible". In May of 2020, a federal judge ruled unconstitutional the state law that would have required felons unable to pay any outstanding court fees and fines before they could register to vote. The Governor appealed. The issue has been making its way through the courts and now, Mike Bloomberg's offer to pay felons' fines to restore voting rights is underway as are challenges to that effort. WLRN continues to cover the issue. Meanwhile, a new Amendment 4 emerges on the Nov. ballot - a measure that, if approved by voters, would make citizen proposed constitutional amendments more difficult to get before voters.

Every 30 Seconds Every 30 seconds, a young Latino in the United States turns 18 and becomes eligible to vote. That's about 66,000 new Latino voters every month and 800,000 every year, [according to the Pew Research Center](#). This year, 32 million Latinos are projected to be eligible to vote, making Latinos the largest minority voting bloc in the electorate. WLRN has partnered with "[The World](#)" for a project called "Every 30 Seconds." Ahead of the 2020 election, we're taking an in-depth look at this important voting bloc, including the complexities of demographics, the candidates and issues that matter to young Latinos in a series of stories over the months leading up to the November presidential election. <https://www.wlrn.org/local-news/2020-07-31/the-pandemic-upended-this-homestead-teens-senior-year-now-its-upended-his-politics>

Coronavirus Response Perhaps our greatest service to the community has been addressing the Covid-19 pandemic in hard hit South Florida and Latin America. We informed our audience across all fronts - broadcast, web, social media - even launching a Florida Keys specific newsletter. Our approach closely paralleled our usual response to hurricane coverage, combining continuous coverage of measures to address and contain the virus' spread with lists of testing sites and more. The station's internal operations changed to focus both on employee and freelancer safety as well as community safety. We not only instituted a work from home operation early in March but also expanded to a 7 day a week coverage plan, instead of weekday only, and adopted a consistent weekday conference call coordinating information and reporting plans.

WLRN Connects: WLRN instituted special programming - Zoom meetings backed up by Facebook Live - during the pandemic shutdown. Our audience communicated with experts and WLRN journalists to discuss the impact of coronavirus on our community and lives. The sessions focused on different topic areas and proved so compelling that the series became an every Monday morning program in June. The program filled The Sunshine Economy slot over the summer months.

- August 31 - Restaurants and Hotel Workers Adapt
<https://www.wlrn.org/2020-08-31/wlrn-connects-restaurant-and-hotel-workers-adapt-to-the-new-normal>
- August 24 - Stories of Caregivers
<https://www.wlrn.org/2020-08-24/wlrn-connects-stories-of-caregivers-during-the-coronavirus-pandemic>
- August 17 - Voting During A Pandemic
<https://www.wlrn.org/2020-08-17/wlrn-connects-voting-during-a-pandemic>
- August 11 - Paying for Healthcare During Covid-19
<https://www.wlrn.org/2020-08-11/wlrn-connects-paying-for-healthcare-during-covid-19>
- August 5 - The Ins and Outs of Working From Home
<https://www.wlrn.org/news/2020-08-05/wlrn-connects-the-ins-and-outs-of-working-from-home-in-south-florida-during-the-pandemic>
- July 28 - Getting Ready for the Virtual Start of a New School Year
<https://www.wlrn.org/news/2020-07-28/wlrn-connects-getting-ready-for-the-virtual-start-of-a-new-school-year>
- July 21 - How We Talk About The Pandemic
<https://www.wlrn.org/news/2020-07-21/wlrn-connects-how-we-talk-about-the-pandemic-with-ourselves-and-others>
- July 14 - Staying Connected With People and Issues
<https://www.wlrn.org/news/2020-07-14/wlrn-connects-staying-connected-with-people-and-issues-you-care-about-during-the-pandemic>

Intermission The coronavirus pandemic may have forced arts venues to shut down, but that doesn't mean South Florida artists slowed down. Many are staying connected with their audiences through social media

and live-streaming events. WLRN created a series called "Intermission" covering how the arts in South Florida are trying to stay healthy through focused coverage of local theater companies, playwrights, musicians, actors, dancers, choreographers, spoken-word and visual artists that are hosting online happenings.

Hurricane Ready WLRN is part of the **Florida Public Radio Emergency Network**. It is activated during weather emergencies to provide residents with timely and accurate information. The Atlantic hurricane season runs from June 1 to Nov. 30 although named storms have been cropping up before the official start, signalling a change to the usual pattern, which WLRN noted in its climate reporting. WLRN encourages all Florida residents, new and otherwise, to have an emergency plan and obtain supplies to be ready in case of a weather emergency. WLRN continues to post information our audience needs to help keep themselves and their families safe before, during and after a storm. Forecasts and interactive maps are available on our site's [weather page](#), powered by [Florida Storms](#). <https://www.wlrn.org/term/hurricane-preparedness-0>

WLRN NEWS AWARDS

WLRN consistently produces award-winning content recognized on international, national, regional, statewide and local levels in both digital and broadcast categories. The awards below are for work completed in 2019. We rose to the top in a variety of areas including politics, arts, sports, investigations, public affairs, continuing coverage, newscasts and breaking news. Another national contest will announce winners in the 4th quarter of this year.

NATIONAL AWARDS

EDUCATION WRITERS ASSOCIATION (EWA) The National Awards for Education Reporting is now in its seventh decade of honoring distinguished journalism, furthering the association's mission of increasing the quantity and quality of education coverage to create a better-informed public and underscore the importance of excellent coverage and storytelling as a cornerstone of democracy and education.

- Winner, Best Audio Storytelling (small newsroom) - Jessica Bakeman
<https://www.wlrn.org/post/childhood-interrupted-year-shooting-stoneman-douglas-family-wrestles-how-stay#stream/0>

STATEWIDE AWARDS

SUNSHINE STATE AWARDS - Winners announced August 15

SPECIAL CATEGORIES DIVISION WINNER (all media competes head to head)

Winners:

Journalist of the Year - Jessica Bakeman, *Jessica Bakeman Reports for WLRN*
News Editor of the Year – Alicia Zuckerman, *Alicia Zuckerman, Editorial Director at WLRN News*

Finalists:

Anchor of the Year – Christine DiMattei, *Christine DiMattei Anchors WLRN News*
Outstanding New Journalist – Caitie Switalski, *Caitie Switalski Reports for WLRN News*

RADIO DIVISION

Best Newscast -

- 2nd Place: WLRN News – Luis Hernandez, *WLRN News with Luis Hernandez*

General Coverage -

- 1st Place: WLRN News – Madeline Fox, Tim Padgett, Danny Rivero & Nadege Green, *Bahamians Respond to Hurricane Dorian Collection*
- 3rd Place: WLRN News – Caitie Switalski, *The Hollywood 911 Tower Controversy*

Investigative Reporting –

- 2nd Place: WLRN News – Danny Rivero, *Felons Might Have To Pay Hundreds Of Millions Before Being Able To Vote In Florida*

Government & Politics Reporting -

- 1st Place: WLRN News – Danny Rivero, *We Wouldn't Treat Our Animals This Way': Lack Of A/C In Record Heat Puts Florida Prisons To The Test*
- 2nd Place: WLRN News – Caitie Switalski, *This Powerful Commission Is Shaping School Safety Policies In Florida*
- 3rd Place: WLRN News – Jenny Staletovich, *Miami-Dade County Is Tackling Carbon Pollution At An Unlikely Place: The Morgue*

Serious Feature Reporting –

- 1st Place: WLRN News – Tim Padgett, *Guatemalan Girl Power: A Maya Baby Makes It To South Florida – And Life-Giving Surgery*

Light Feature Reporting -

- 3rd Place: WLRN News – Madeline Fox, *Mayan Girls' Step Forward As Next Generation Of Translators Of An Ancient Language*

Public Affairs -

- 3rd Place: WLRN News – Tom Hudson, Jenny Staletovich & Alex Gonzalez, *South Florida Roundup: What New Sea Level Rise Projections Mean For The Florida Keys*

Environmental Reporting -

- 2nd Place: WLRN News – Jenny Staletovich, *Jenny Staletovich Covers the Environmental Beat for WLRN*

Best Use of Sound -

- 2nd Place: WLRN News – Sammy Mack, *Mosquitoes, Zika, Sexuality: Art Meets Science In A New Film Installation At PAMM*

Continuing Coverage or Series -

- *3rd Place: WLRN News – Madeline Fox, Tim Padgett, Danny Rivero, Nadege Green, Bahamians Respond to Hurricane Dorian*

Education Reporting -

- *1st Place: WLRN News – Jessica Bakeman & Alicia Zuckerman, Chartered: Florida’s First Private Takeover of a Public School System*

Arts Reporting -

- *1st Place: WLRN News – Caitie Switalski, Arts Reporting by Caitie Switalski*
- *2nd Place: WLRN News – Jessica Bakeman, Local Artists Collaborate On Miami Mural Paying Tribute To Bar’s Beloved Late Bouncer*

DIGITAL DIVISION

Infographics and Data Visualization -

- *3rd Place: WLRN News – Jessica Bakeman & Teresa Frontado, Chartered: Florida’s First Private Takeover of a Public School*

Podcast -

- *1st Place: WLRN News, WNYC Studios – Nadege Green/WLRN, Kai Wright & Christopher Johnson/WNYC, There Goes The Neighborhood: Miami*

Social Media Package -

- *1st Place: WLRN News – Caitie Switalski & Katie Lepri, Election Results: Fort Lauderdale And Hollywood Approve New Taxes For Parks, Police*