

**WNNZ, Westfield, Massachusetts**  
**WNNZ-FM, Deerfield, Massachusetts**  
**WNNU, Great Barrington, Massachusetts**  
**WNNI, Adams, Massachusetts**

**Issues/Programs List**

**July 1, 2015 through September 30, 2015**

During this period, WFCR broadcast programming about local issues during program segments reserved for local feature-length reports, interviews and commentaries, Monday through Friday at (typically) 6:20 a.m., 6:43 a.m., 7:20 a.m., 7:43 a.m., 8:20 a.m. and 8:43 a.m. and 5:44 p.m., or similar times within the morning and afternoon news programs. In addition, local newscasts were broadcast immediately following national newscasts on the hour from 6:00 a.m. through 8:00 a.m. inclusive, and 4:00 p.m. through 6:00 p.m. inclusive. On Saturday, local issue programming was presented at 8:35 a.m. and 9:35 a.m., and local newscasts followed national newscasts on the hour from 8:00 a.m., 9:00 a.m. and 12:00 p.m. On Sunday, local newscasts were broadcast following national newscasts on the hour at 8:00 and 9:00 a.m.

In addition to this programming produced locally, many reports on the same and related subjects were broadcast daily and weekly through WFCR's broadcast of such national news programs as *Morning Edition*, *All Things Considered*, *Marketplace*, *Here & Now*, *Fresh Air*, *Weekend Edition* and others.

**Issues**

Arts & Culture  
Commentary  
Economic Development  
Education  
Energy/Environment  
Justice, Law & Public Safety  
Politics/Public Policy  
Public Health  
Science

Local Reports on <i>Morning Edition</i> , <i>All Things Considered</i> , and <i>Weekend Edition</i>					
Topic	Date	Time	Length	State	Summary
Arts & Culture	7/3	6:45 a.m. 8:45 a.m.	4:20	MA	Our Summer fiction series continues, with a book about an accidental fortune teller - an aimless middle aged woman who inherits a palm reading booth at a western Massachusetts shopping mall.
Arts & Culture	7/3	7:22 a.m.	3:35	MA	The remains of a marine corps officer killed in the south pacific during world war two and discovered last year have been laid to rest in his home town of Westfield, Massachusetts.
Arts & Culture	7/8	6:45 a.m. 8:45 a.m.	5:02	MA	Our summer fiction series continues, with a book about a pair of Pakistani siblings who come to western MA to study.
Arts & Culture	7/15	4:44 p.m.	3:28	MA	Anna Sculeit Haber spearheaded a public art project on the alphabet, with the Fitchburg sentinel and enterprise newspapers. Issues will have a letter of the day on the front page.
Arts & Culture	7/16	6:45 a.m. 8:45 a.m.	4:34	MA	Our summer fiction series continues, with a book about a gambling addict, his family and the mafia - based in revere MA, the home of author Roland Merullo who now lives in Hampshire county.
Arts & Culture	7/21	6:33 a.m. 8:33 a.m.	5:15	MA	Cartoonist Roz Chast draws frazzled, neurotic characters who appear regularly in the New Yorker magazine - as well as several books. Her latest, a graphic memoir about caring for her aging parents, has been turned into a museum exhibit -- it's premiering at the Norman Rockwell museum in Stockbridge, Massachusetts.
Arts & Culture	7/22	7:51 a.m.	1:49	MA	A Northampton, Massachusetts, sewing studio is hosting a camp this week to teach young people the value of a t-shirt.
Arts & Culture	7/24	6:45 a.m. 8:45 a.m.	4:51	MA	Our summer fiction series continues today with a historical novel..."the inner sea" takes place in the roman empire in the year 100 a-d. It follows two young lovers: Lucia - a recently converted Christian, and James, who's Jewish. Northampton, Massachusetts-based author Zane Kotler says in researching the novel, she was struck by cultural similarities between the times of early Christianity and today.

Arts & Culture	7/25	8:35 a.m. 10:35 a.m.	3:58	MA	In Cooperstown, New York, former Red Sox pitcher Pedro Martinez will be inducted into the Baseball Hall of Fame. To put the right-hander's pitching accomplishments into context, we talked to veteran Boston Globe columnist Dan Shaughnessy. He explains what the 1997 trade for Martinez meant for the Dan Douquette-era Red Sox.
Arts & Culture	7/31	6:45 a.m. 8:45 a.m.	4:55	CT	A dog spends its first few years locked in a laboratory, leaving her broken and traumatized. A lady bug a little girl and other dogs help her rediscover her foxhound instincts. That's the premise of "the nearly calamitous taming of p-z, written by Martha Ritter of West Hartford.
Arts & Culture	8/	6:45 a.m. 8:45 a.m.	2:00	CT	The Litchfield Jazz Festival celebrates its 20th anniversary this weekend. Friday's opening night will include a special tribute to Connecticut jazz legend Thomas Chapin. Chapin died from leukemia in the late 1990s. He was 41 years old.
Arts & Culture	8/7	6:45 a.m. 8:45 a.m.	4:41	MA	Our summer fiction series continues with "On Hurricane Island" by Easthampton author Ellen Meeropol. She introduces readers to a math professor named Gandalf Cohen who is abducted by federal agents and flown to a secret interrogation center off the coast of Maine.
Arts & Culture	8/8	8:35 a.m. 10:35 a.m.	4:11	MA	All states are not created equal, at least not when it comes to their influence on American history. That assumption underlies a new volume of essays called... "Massachusetts and the Civil War." One of its editors, Conrad Edick Wright, says Massachusetts seems to be the single most important state responsible for the causes and to some extent the consequences of pre- and post- war order.
Arts & Culture	8/15	8:35 a.m. 10:35 a.m.	3:59	CT	Hundreds of visitors have been milling about the university of Connecticut's Storrs campus this week. These are not prospective students -- they're puppeteers who've come from the world over to attend the national puppetry festival. This year, the festival returned to UConn for the first time in nearly a half-century.
Arts & Culture	8/22	8:35 a.m. 10:35 a.m.	3:58	MA	With kids soon headed back to school, parents thoughts may turn to the packing of imperishable and durable lunches and snacks... think energy bars and juice boxes. Many common lunchbox foods were developed in military labs... including one in MA, according to food writer Anastasia Marx de Salcedo in her new book "The Combat-Ready Kitchen."

Arts & Culture	8/29	8:35 a.m. 10:35 a.m.	3:33	MA	This weekend marks the conclusion of Jacob's Pillow's 83rd dance festival season in Beckett MA. It also marks the final season with Ella Baff at the helm. Baff has been the Pillow's executive and artistic director for the past 17 years. She announced last month she was taking a newly created position in New York with the Andrew Mellon foundation.
Arts & Culture	9/1	6:33 a.m. 8:33 a.m.	MA	3:53	There'll be no settlement. A federal judge could issue a ruling as early as today on patriots quarter-back Tom Brady's legal challenge of the four game football deflation suspension handed to him by the NFL. Both Brady and NFL commissioner Roger Goodell were back before the judge yesterday in New York. Curt Nickish of WBUR had this report.
Arts & Culture	9/2	6:45 a.m. 8:45 a.m.	MA	4:12	James Joyce's Finnegans wake is one of literatures most daunting reads. It features over 60 languages, often leaving readers mystified. A Hampshire College alum has helped to make the novel more accessible. He collaborated with 17 artists to set each of the book's chapters... to music.
Arts & Culture	9/15	6:22 a.m. 8:22 a.m.	5:32	CT	"An Opening in Time" at the Hartford Stage is an all-Connecticut show. Both director Oliver Butler and playwright Christopher Shinn were born and raised in Connecticut. That's where Shinn has set his newest work.
Arts & Culture	9/21	6:45 a.m. 8:45 a.m.	1:38	CT	An historic art museum in Hartford held its grand reopening this weekend. After a 5-year, 33 million dollar renovation, the Wadsworth Athenaeum museum of art invited the public to check it out... for free.
Arts & Culture	9/22	6:22 a.m. 8:22 a.m.	3:45	MA	As summer comes to an end, so has Springfield's outdoor concert series. This past season the organizers tried something new... and it made a lot of concert-goers unhappy.
Arts & Culture	9/24	5:45 a.m. 7:45 a.m.	1:47	MA	The movie black mass, depicting reputed Boston mobster whitey bulger, is drawing mixed reviews from critics. But one Springfield area figure with a unique tie to the film is giving it four out of four stars.
Arts & Culture	9/25	7:22 a.m. 4:50 p.m.	4:54	MA	On stage at Amherst college this weekend - a one man show called "The Lower Frequencies". Bryce Monroe wrote it as a senior at the college last year. He performed it before he graduated and he was invited back by the college president herself to perform it again. The title comes from the last lines of "The Invisible Man", Ralph Ellison's landmark 1952 novel that explored race and identity in the 20th century. Bryce Monroe is trying to do likewise for the 21st century.

Arts & Culture	9/29	7:45 a.m.	2:58	VT	After 17 years of running a bed and breakfast, the owner of a southern Vermont inn is looking to get out of the hospitality business. And as Vermont Public Radio's Howard Weiss-Tisman explains, a new owner could take over the historic inn for 150 dollars, and a convincing essay.
Commentary	7/15	7:45 a.m.	2:52	MA	Former South Hadley MA funeral home director William Ryder is was arraigned on new charges including insurance fraud. Dozens of families who made deposits on funerals say Ryder took their hundreds of thousands of dollars and ran. A few years before this began, longtime South Hadley resident Mary Hall met with Ryder on a family matter.
Commentary	7/23	6:45 a.m. 8:45 a.m.	2:33	MA	A few years ago, our commentator Naomi Shulman and her daughter used to snuggle up in bed and watch movies. Shulman's daughter is no longer a toddler, but the tradition remains -- with topics that are more mature.
Commentary	8/6	6:45 a.m. 8:45 a.m.	2:40	MA	Energy analyst and commentator Michael Lynch says since a whole range of pundits are going to weigh in on the clean power plan that president Obama announced this week, he might as well join the crowd.
Commentary	9/1	6:33 a.m. 8:33 a.m.	2:38	MA	If you've read anything in the past 24 hours - a book, a newspaper, a magazine article, there's a strong chance it was on a screen. When English teacher and commentator Beverly Fitzsouza was asked to get her middle school students reading e-books, she said no way.
Commentary	9/21	6:45 a.m. 8:45 a.m.	3:00	MA	Nursing student Bonnie Shalbetter lives at home with her parents in Longmeadow, MA. Last term, after a full day of classes at American International College, she went to a friend's, got some dinner, and came home around 10 o clock. When she pulled into the driveway, her mother was shouting for her to come upstairs. Bonnie's father was barely conscious, and all credit goes to her for saving his life that night. She and her father came into the studio recently to tell us how it all went down.
Commentary	9/22	6:22 a.m. 8:22 a.m.	2:51	MA	It doesn't matter where you live in New England - you'll hear about people using opiates, for more than pain relief. Their stories are coming out not only in emergency rooms and support groups, but also in art. Poet Amy Dryansky lives in Conway, Massachusetts. She says visitors who drive through her idyllic hill town may think the heroin epidemic wouldn't hit here. But it has... in her own neighborhood. Dryansky watched one family - and their house - fall apart. She writes about it in her poem "fixed blue gone."

Commentary	9/24	5:45 a.m. 7:45 a.m.	2:39	MA	After years of living in the northeast, commentator Beth Reynolds recently sold her snow tires and is moving back home - to the south. Buying into being in western Massachusetts wasn't easy, at least not at first.
Economic Development	7/28	4:35 p.m. 6:20 p.m.	8:12	MA	The U.S. job market is on the mend, but one group continues to have a stubbornly high unemployment rate: people with disabilities. In fact, they're more than twice as likely to be unemployed as other Americans. A program in Springfield is trying to change that.
Economic Development	8/28	6:45 a.m. 8:45 a.m.	2:45	MA	The first train to stop in Holyoke in almost 50 years pulled up to the platform yesterday afternoon - bringing hopes of an economic revival to the city.
Economic Development	8/28	4:44 p.m.	3:55	MA	The minor league baseball team in new Britain CT plays its final series this weekend. The rock cats franchise is moving to Hartford next year. They'll have a new stadium, and a new name: the yard goats. The team's decision left a bad taste in the mouth of new Britain's mayor, Erin Stewart - saying the rock cats owners repeated lied to her, but on some level she understands why they're moving.
Education	8/13	7:51 a.m.	5:21	MA	Coaches at division one colleges can pull in big salaries. Last year, UMass men's basketball coach Derek Kellogg made over a million dollars. WBUR's Fred Thys reports, it's a different story at liberal arts colleges
Education	8/21	6:33 a.m. 8:33 a.m.	6:51	MA	It's not news that the city of Holyoke has one of the highest dropout rates in Massachusetts. State education officials have been keeping an eye on the district for more than a decade. In a few weeks, students will return to schools under state control. There is both hope and doubt that things can change for the better.
Education	9/3	6:22 a.m. 8:22 a.m.	2:10	MA	As schools open across the region this week, the students in grades 7 through 12 in Lanesborough, Massachusetts have suddenly become more popular: one school district wants them and another hopes to keep them.
Energy /Environment	7/30	6:45 a.m. 8:45 a.m.	3:53	VT	The state of Vermont and the federal nuclear regulatory commission don't always see eye to eye. They disagreed over the future of the Vermont Yankee nuclear plant when it was operating. And now that the plant is shut down, the state has challenged the feds over emergency planning and decommissioning. Vermont is pushing for a greater role for states, as aging reactors close around the country.

Energy /Environment	8/26	5:51 a.m. 7:51 a.m.	6:41	MA	For the past year and a half, a proposal to build a natural gas pipeline through rural areas of Massachusetts and New Hampshire has stirred up controversy in the region. The Northeast Energy Direct pipeline would start in Pennsylvania and end in Dracut, Massachusetts. The company hoping to build it, Kinder Morgan, will formally submit its plan to federal regulators this fall, and the deadline for public comments on the project is the end of this month. Reporter Henry Epp took a road trip along the proposed route.
Energy /Environment	8/27	5:51 a.m. 7:51 a.m.	7:25	MA	The second leg of our road trip along the proposed route of a natural gas pipeline. The company Kinder Morgan wants to bring natural gas from Pennsylvania, through New York, western Massachusetts and southern New Hampshire. Kinder Morgan will file their proposal with federal regulators this fall, and the deadline for public comments is on Monday.
Energy /Environment	8/28	5:51 a.m. 7:51 a.m.	7:46	MA	This week we hear from residents along the proposed route of a natural gas pipeline in MA and NH. Many people brought up concerns about the pipeline's possible effects on the environment, property values and safety. Allen Fore is a representative of the company Kinder Morgan, who emphasizes the company has operated other pipelines in New England for decades.
Energy/ Environment	9/8	7:51 a.m.	2:45	MA	Decades after general electric in Pittsfield, Massachusetts, stopped improperly disposing industrial chemicals into the Housatonic, the 150 mile river remains contaminated. And the EPA continues to ban fishing. But one part of the river is getting a makeover.
Energy/ Environment	9/15	6:22 a.m. 8:22 a.m.	1:47	CT	A partnership to protect Connecticut's only native rabbit appears to be working. That means the New England cottontail will not need protection under the endangered species act.
Energy/ Environment	9/22	5:45 a.m. 7:45 a.m.	4:43	MA	An anti-pipeline group is taking its case to Massachusetts highest court. Late last month, the state's department of public utilities approved contracts between several gas utilities and Kinder Morgan. The company wants to bring a controversial natural gas pipeline through New York, Massachusetts, and New Hampshire. The pipe line awareness network asked to be an intervenor in those rulings, but was denied. The group is now appealing that decision to the Massachusetts supreme judicial court. They're represented by attorney Richard Kanoff. He says the group would have argued the northeast direct pipeline project - or NED - is bad for ratepayers.

Energy/ Environment	9/23	5:45 a.m. 7:45 a.m.	4:50	MA	The company Kinder Morgan plans to file its federal application to build a natural gas pipeline through New York, Massachusetts, New Hampshire. Mass attorney general Maura Healy is getting her two cents in - she sent a letter to the federal energy regulatory commission - or FERC - this week. She outlined her request for the state department of public utilities to slow down the process of approving contracts between Kinder Morgan and several utilities that will take gas from their pipeline. The DPU denied that request. But... Healy is not appealing d-p-u's decision to approve the contracts.
Energy/ Environment	9/25	6:35 a.m. 8:31 a.m.	5:05	MA	Tomorrow will kick off a massive riverbank cleanup in Greenfield Massachusetts. Last year a pile of thousands of tires was discovered along the bank of the Deerfield River. It's a massive job, and to get a sense of what's ahead, David Boles, a river cleanup volunteer told us what the project looks like.
Justice, Law & Public Safety	7/14	6:22 a.m.	2:28	MA	Residents of Adams, MA - the former milltown in the Berkshires where a man was arrested this month on suspicion of planning a terrorist attack, say the incident is scary - but could have happened anywhere.
Justice, Law & Public Safety	7/14	6:22 a.m.	4:06	MA	The son of a Boston police officer will remain held without bail on charges of plotting domestic terrorism, federal authorities revealed recordings of Alexander Ciccolo praising the group Isis and terrorist attacks, but his lawyer says that proves nothing. Ciccolo appeared in court in Springfield.
Justice, Law & Public Safety	7/17	5:44 p.m.	4:52	MA	The Massachusetts family of marine Thomas Sullivan, killed in Chattanooga, Tennessee has asked for privacy as they mourn the loss of their son. A community offers their support.
Justice, Law & Public Safety	7/21	6:33 a.m. 8:33 a.m.	1:27	CT	A spike in violence in the city of Hartford has already left 18 people dead this year. Last week, Mayor Pedro Segarra asked governor Dannel Malloy for support. Monday the two men met with local, state and federal officials to talk about the best response.
Justice, Law & Public Safety	7/27	6:22 a.m. 8:22a.m.	3:31	MA	A private funeral and burial was held for Springfield native Thomas Sullivan. The 40 year old marine was one of five service members shot to death earlier this month in Chattanooga, Tennessee. Yesterday at his wake, friends and strangers waited in line to pay their respects.
Justice, Law & Public Safety	7/28	6:45 a.m. 8:45 a.m.	3:01	MA	Funeral services were held for gunnery sergeant Thomas Sullivan, the marine from Springfield who was killed by a gunman in Chattanooga, Tennessee, earlier this month. Outside the church where the mass was held, the community continued to show its support for the Sullivan family.



Justice, Law & Public Safety	8/18	7:51 a.m.	7:02	MA	Three months after a federal jury decided Jahar Tsarnaev deserves a sentence of death for the Boston marathon bombings... his lawyers are appealing both the sentence and his conviction. Among their arguments is that it was impossible for Tsarnaev to receive a fair trial in Boston because of all the publicity surrounding the case. But not all of their arguments are clear. About one third of the appeal is blacked out from public view. That's apparently due to the unusual degree of secrecy in the Tsarnaev case. While the trial is over, judge George O'Toole has taken no action yet to end secrecy around many parts of it, including the identities of the jurors who sentenced Tsarnaev to death.
Justice, Law & Public Safety	8/20	7:45 a.m.	2:36	MA	A Hardwick man charged with beating and starving his son into a coma, while both were under oversight by the MA dept. of children and families will remain jailed pending a trial. That's the outcome of a hearing yesterday in east Brookfield district court.
Politics /Public Policy	7/2	7:45 a.m.	4:36	MA	MA Governor Baker's recent action plan on opioid abuse crisis concedes state needs federal assistance.
Politics /Public Policy	7/3	7:22 a.m. 4:44 p.m.	2:56	MA	Lawmakers in South Carolina debated whether to remove the confederate flag from the state house grounds. One effort to protest the flag began in western Massachusetts, in the basement of a Northampton concert hall.
Politics /Public Policy (JL&PS)	7/3	5:50 p.m.	8:26	MA	<b>THE SHORT LIST:</b> Rick Hurst publisher of African American Point of View, and Ron Schmills of the Springfield Republican discuss the issues of the week. Springfield saw its 13th murder of 2015. That's just one fewer murder than the city witnessed in all of 2014, and it means Springfield is more deadly this year than any other New England city, except for Hartford. Mayor Domenic Sarno's war of words with the Hampden County Bar Association quickly escalated. The fight is over bail amounts for repeat offenders, but it's also about politics, the Constitution and community frustration. The Fourth of July brings hot dogs, fireworks, music and pool parties. It also brings terror warnings from the feds. Our panel dives into ISIS, patriotism and whether the very nature of holidays is forever changed.
Politics /Public Policy	7/6	6:45 a.m. 8:45 a.m.	3:39	MA	MA governor Baker left for the July 4th holiday saying he was confident house and senate lawmakers could agree on a budget deal by the end of this week. New England public radio's Susan Kaplan asked state house reporter Matt Murphy if the governor risked failing to deliver a budget before a temporary stop-gap measure expires.

Politics /Public Policy (Econ Dev. JL&PS)	7/10	5:50 p.m.	9:00	MA	<b>THE SHORT LIST:</b> Rick Hurst, publisher of African American Point of View, and Larry Parnis of the Daily Hampshire Gazette discuss the issues of the week. A MassBenchmarks report released this week found the state's economy is as strong as it's been since the late 1990s. But the uptick in western Mass? Less impressive. A chemist at a state drug lab on Amherst may have tainted thousands of criminal cases, instead of just a few dozen. That's the news this week as Sonja Farak's statements to a correctional center nurse became public. Another awful week for comedian and Shelburne Falls resident Bill Cosby, as a judge unsealed court documents showing Cosby admitted to getting Quaaludes to give women he wanted to have sex with.
Politics /Public Policy	7/13	6:45 a.m. 8:45 a.m.	3:37	MA	MA Gov. Charlie Baker is scheduled to announce amendments and vetoes to the 38.1 billion dollar budget for 2016.
Politics /Public Policy (JL&PS)	7/17	5:50 p.m.	8:58	MA	<b>THE SHORT LIST:</b> Rick Hurst, publisher of African American Point of View, and Matt Szafranski of the Western MA Politics & Insight blog discuss the issues of the week. The feds say Alexander Ciccolo, 23, of Adams, Massachusetts, was gearing up to attack a college on behalf of ISIS. The backstory includes a DUI, guns laws, a father's fears and mental health worries. A couple days later, a gunman killed four Marines and one sailor in Chattanooga. Among the dead: Marine Gunnery Sergeant Thomas Sullivan, who grew up in Springfield.
Politics /Public Policy	7/20	6:45 a.m. 8:45 a.m.	3:37	MA	Massachusetts finally has a budget...nearly three weeks into the new fiscal year. Last Friday, governor Charlie Baker signed a 38-point-1 billion dollar spending plan. It includes some of baker's proposals to overhaul the troubled Massachusetts bay transportation authority. The governor also vetoed some of the earmarks legislators had hoped to see passed.
Politics /Public Policy	7/22	5:54 p.m.	3:02	MA	Olympians could be seen on the Deerfield river, if the proposal from Boston 2024 goes through. The group hoping to bring the summer games to Massachusetts has picked the Deerfield river to host Olympic whitewater slalom. The Greenfield Recorder's Tom Relihan got to wondering how that would work.
Politics /Public Policy	7/23	6:45 a.m. 8:45 a.m.	1:54	MA	Mental health workers are striking around western Massachusetts this week to protest a contract impasse over pay and productivity.
Politics /Public Policy	7/24	7:45 a.m.	4:18	MA	Arguments over the Olympics in Boston came to a head. A Boston Globe/Fox 25 debate pitted two top supporters of a Boston Olympic bid against two leading opponents.

Politics /Public Policy (JL&PS, Public Health)	7/24	5:50 p.m.	8:33	MA	<b>THE SHORT LIST:</b> Matt Szafranski of the Western MA Politics & Insight blog and Natalia Muñoz of El Sol Latino discuss the issues of the week. Armed volunteers guarded military recruitment centers around the country, including in Keene, N.H. In the wake of the deadly attacks in Chattanooga, we explore the complicated question of whether recruiters should be allowed to carry guns. Hampden County Sheriff Michael Ashe wants to make Springfield's North End the permanent home of a substance abuse treatment facility for inmates, which was booted from its previous site by MGM construction. Mayor Demonic Sarno supports the plan, but many in the neighborhood are objecting. Good-paying jobs and who can get them: Legislation proposed on pay equity and transparency in Massachusetts got a hearing on Beacon Hill this week.
Politics /Public Policy	7/27	6:22 a.m. 8:22a.m.	3:24	MA	Massachusetts lawmakers will break soon for their august recess, but both chambers plan to meet this week. State house reporter Matt Murphy tells nepr that the house will decide whether to hold a sales tax holiday and update public records laws.
Politics /Public Policy	7/28	6:45 a.m. 8:45 a.m.	2:04	CT	In Hartford, democratic leaders endorsed Luke Bronin for mayor. That's after incumbent Pedro Segarra declined the nomination and stormed out of the convention.
Politics /Public Policy (Energy/Envi. JL&PS)	7/31	5:50 p.m.	8:53	MA	<b>THE SHORT LIST:</b> Ron Chimelis of the Springfield republican, and Rick Hurst, publisher of African American Point of View discuss the issues of the week. A proposed gas pipeline project from developer Kinder Morgan is causing debate pro and con. Opponents say a grass roots movement is gaining traction. Proponents say the project is good for the region and will add fuel and jobs. Media banter (including us) about the Patriots and the players union attempt to fight Tom Brady's huge fine and four game suspension from the NFL over alleged shenanigans about football's being deflated heats up. The Olympic Committee dumped Boston's bid saying it consistently lacked public support. We discuss the aftermath.
Politics /Public Policy	8/3	6:45 a.m. 8:45 a.m.	4:48	MA	Massachusetts governor Charlie Baker is expected this week to approve a "sales tax holiday," which the legislature passed last month. This brief tax reprieve has become something of an annual tradition. State house reporter Matt Murphy, in our weekly check in, says the event <i>does</i> have its detractors on Beacon Hill.

Politics /Public Policy	8/7	5:50 p.m.	8:03	MA	<b>THE SHORT LIST:</b> Matt Szafranski of the Western MA Politics & Insight blog and Mike Dobbs of The Reminder discuss the issues of the week. A slew of potential ballot questions have been filed with the AG's office in MA, ranging from legalizing the sale of fireworks to expanding access to charter schools. All eyes are on two efforts on campaigns to legalize marijuana, one which would regulate it like alcohol and another more open. This week marks the 1 year anniversary of the death of Mike Brown. Body cameras have been proposed in Boston.
Politics /Public Policy	8/10	6:45 a.m. 8:45 a.m.	4:21	MA	Massachusetts lawmakers are on break for the month of august, and it looks like it will be a fairly quiet week on beacon hill. But state house news reporter matt murphy is there. He says there are also some lawmakers lurking around the capitol, gearing up for the fall session.
Politics /Public Policy <i>(Education, JL&amp;PS)</i>	8/14	5:50 p.m.	9:05	MA	<b>THE SHORT LIST:</b> Natalia Muñoz of El Sol Latino, and Ron Chimelis of the Springfield republican discuss the issues of the week. Bishop Mitchell Rozanski, head of the Catholic Diocese of Springfield, this week marked his first year in western Massachusetts. Arriving here from Baltimore, he found himself quickly embroiled in a controversy over Catholic education's legacy and sustainability. Some companies are looking to cash-in on federal requirements that colleges offer training to staff and students to help prevent sexual assault. Patriots quarterback Tom Brady took the NFL to court this week over his four-game suspension for his alleged role in a scheme to reduce the air pressure in footballs.
Politics /Public Policy	8/17	6:45 a.m. 8:45 a.m.	4:44	MA	The bid to bring the summer Olympics to Boston 2024 died a few weeks ago... but before it did, top mass officials ordered an independent review of the proposal. That review is due out this week, even though the Olympics bid is gone. Checking in with state house reporter Matt Murphy, we ask if there's any purpose to the Olympics report other than looking at what might have been.
Politics /Public Policy	8/19	7:45 a.m.	3:53	MA	The Boston Olympic bid is already over. But consultants hired by the state of Massachusetts are providing some finality to the debate over the proposal. Their evaluation, released yesterday, questions many of the financial assumptions of Olympic backers. Still, even though the fight is over, the Olympic organizing group is taking issue with those conclusions.

Politics /Public Policy	8/19 8/20	4:44 p.m. 7:45 a.m.	2:01	MA	Massachusetts governor Charlie baker has made only a handful of appearance in the four western counties of the state since he took office in January. It may be quite some more time before the governor comes back to Western Mass.
Politics /Public Policy ( <i>Public Health, JL&amp;PS</i> )	8/21	5:50 p.m.	9:04	MA	<b>THE SHORT LIST:</b> Natasha Clark, publisher of Lioness Magazine and Matt Szafranski of the Western MA Politics & Insight blog discuss the issues of the week. Animal rights activists announced a proposed ballot question that would require only cage-free eggs to be sold in Massachusetts starting in 2022. The question would also ban the sale of some pork and veal if the animals are kept in small cages. Just a few weeks after a 7-year-old Hardwick boy under supervision by the Department of Children and Families was left in a coma, a 2-year-old foster child died last weekend and a 22-month-old, living in the same home, was reported in “dire” condition. Gov. Charlie Baker says the state will find the money to get more social workers on the job, as the state deals with more reported cases of abuse and neglect than ever before. Charlie Baker has visited western Massachusetts only a handful of times since his inauguration. His last public appearance: late May.
Politics /Public Policy	8/24	6:45 a.m. 8:45 a.m.	4:55	MA	The MA dept. of children and families is under scrutiny again - after the recent death of a toddler in Auburn whose foster family had been visited by the agency. Governor Charlie baker is dealing with many of the same issues at DCF that faced his predecessor Deval Patrick. Statehouse reporter Matt Murphy says the current administration inherited a blueprint for changes at the agency.
Politics /Public Policy	8/25	6:45 a.m. 8:45 a.m.	3:20	MA	The third Tuesday in September has typically been the date ma communities hold preliminary elections for local offices. However, this year has presented a dilemma for local elections officials because that day - the 15th - happens to fall during Rosh Hashanah, the Jewish new year. That has prompted some municipalities to change their election dates.
Politics /Public Policy	8/28	6:45 a.m. 8:45 a.m.	2:07	CT	For a year, Hartford mayor Pedro Segarra has taken criticism that his minor league baseball stadium plan was hatched in secret without state input. Now new details are coming out about who knew what and when... stoking tension between Segarra and CT governor Dannel Malloy.

Politics /Public Policy ( <i>Energy/Envi., Economic Dev.</i> )	8/28	5:50 p.m.	8:50	MA	<b>THE SHORT LIST:</b> Ron Chimelis of the Springfield Republican and Larry Parnass of the Daily Hampshire Gazette discuss the issues of the week. The debate over a natural gas pipeline proposed to travel through Berkshire and Franklin counties continues, with a public comment deadline approaching. Protesters in Pittsfield gathered Friday outside the offices of Kinder Morgan, the company looking to build the pipeline. Meanwhile, our very own Henry Epp decided to jump in his car and drive the pipeline route, from the New York state line to Dracut. A new train platform in Holyoke opened this week, hosting trains for the first time in 50 years. Officials say the twice-daily train could provide an economic spark. Vermont U.S. Senator and presidential candidate Bernie Sanders continues to draw large crowds to his rallies. What sort of support can he expect from western Massachusetts?
Politics /Public Policy	8/31	6:45 a.m. 8:45 a.m.	3:43	MA	Supporters of proposed ballot petitions in MA will find out this week if they can continue to work towards getting on the 2016 ballot. Attorney general Maura Healy will decide which of the thirty five petitions can start collecting thousands of required signatures. We asked state house reporter Matt Murphy which initiatives look to have the grassroots organization to get off the ground.
Politics /Public Policy	9/3	6:22 a.m. 8:22 a.m.	4:58	MA	Springfield will head to the polls next Tuesday for a preliminary election for mayor. The top two vote getters will then face off in November. Seven candidates are running for mayor this year. That's the largest number of candidates Springfield has seen running for the city's top office in recent years. NEPR's Kari Njiiri joined us to speak about the campaign.
Politics /Public Policy	9/4	6:45 a.m. 8:45 a.m.	4:58	MA	The preliminary election for mayor of west Springfield is Tuesday. The incumbent Ed Sullivan is not running for a second term. That leaves three candidates vying for two spots on the November ballot. Most people who don't live there know it for the big e and that you cut through West Springfield to get elsewhere. But those who live there are really paying attention to this race. NEPR's Jill Kaufman is covering that election for us.

Politics /Public Policy	9/4	5:50 p.m.	8:44	MA	<b>THE SHORT LIST:</b> Rick Hurst, publisher of African American Point of View and Cynthia Simison of the Springfield Republican discuss the issues of the week. Voters in some Massachusetts cities go to the polls next Tuesday for municipal preliminary elections. Springfield's mayoral field includes an incumbent, five challengers and a write-in. With more and more Syrian refugees entering Europe, the U.S. says it will accept thousands more. This comes a couple years after Springfield's mayor called for a moratorium on refugees to his city. The Massachusetts Attorney General signed-off on the constitutionality of nearly two dozen proposed ballot questions this week. They include a push for a so-called "Millionaire's Tax" and proposals to legalize — and tax — marijuana.
Politics /Public Policy	9/7	6:45 a.m.	4:16	MA	Labor day typically marks the end of summer, but Massachusetts lawmakers are still slowly wrapping up their summer break. State house reporter Matt Murphy tells us when the legislature plans to get back to work.
Politics /Public Policy	9/8	7:51 a.m.	3:09	MA	In spite of some disappointment with state lawmakers over issues such as privatizing some MBTA services, leaders of organized labor in Massachusetts say they have much to celebrate. And celebrate they did yesterday, as president Obama joined them for the annual Labor Day breakfast. It was a chance for him to propose new sick leave requirements for some workers... and a chance for local political figures to lay out other labor concerns.
Politics /Public Policy	9/9	6:45 a.m. 8:45 a.m.	2:47	MA	Springfield mayor Domenico Sarno will face off against Sal Circosta in November in his quest for another four-year term. NEPR's Kari Njiiri tells us they were the two top vote getters in yesterday's crowded preliminary election.
Politics /Public Policy	9/9	6:45 a.m. 8:45 a.m.	2:00	MA	A mayoral preliminary race was the lone event in West Springfield's election. Three candidates became two, as NEPR's Jill Kaufman reports.
Politics /Public Policy	9/11	6:45 a.m. 8:45 a.m.	4:06	CT	These are the final days of campaigning before Hartford voters go to the polls in a primary race for mayor. One Republican and one unaffiliated candidate are running for the seat, but the focus is on the Democratic primary, where incumbent mayor Pedro Segarra is getting a serious challenge. New England Public Radio's Henry Epp spoke to Jeff Cohen of W-N-P-R, who's covering the race. Cohen says Segarra took over in 2010 after the former mayor was convicted on corruption charges.

Politics /Public Policy	9/11	5:50 p.m.	8:19	MA	<b>THE SHORT LIST:</b> Rick Hurst, publisher of African American Point of View and Matt Szafranski of the Western MA Politics & Insight blog discuss the issues of the week. Springfield Mayor Domenic Sarno coasted to a first place finish this week with 75 percent of the vote in the city's preliminary election. the other five candidates and a write-in split the remaining votes, with Sal Circosta winning the second spot. But voter turnout was very low. We talk about what the lack of citizen engagement means. Lee, Massachusetts' town meeting gave the green light last spring to consider levying a local gas tax. It would be the first in the state. The measure needs legislative approval, which looks unlikely. Should local municipalities be able to levy local gas taxes? The two parent companies of the four network TV stations in Springfield would merge under a big national deal. The combined company would have to sell at least one Springfield station to meet federal rules. Good or bad news for local news?
Politics /Public Policy	9/14	6:45 a.m. 8:45 a.m.	4:10	MA	After several weeks off, Massachusetts lawmakers are finally getting back to formal sessions this week. They spent the early part of this year focused on budgets, and are now likely to tackle the state's opioid addiction crisis. Governor Charlie Baker wants extra funding to address the problem. State House reporter matt murphy says a senate committee is considering a number of anti-addiction proposals.
Politics /Public Policy	9/16	6:45 a.m. 8:45 a.m.	4:59	MA	Voters in a handful of Massachusetts cities head to the polls next Tuesday for preliminary elections. Both cities in Berkshire County have contested races for mayor. NEPR's Adam Fernier tells us of the candidates and issues in Pittsfield and North Adams.
Politics /Public Policy	9/17	6:45 a.m. 8:45 a.m.	5:02	MA	The preliminary race for Holyoke's mayor is coming up on Tuesday. Two time incumbent Alex Morse faces a challenge from businessman Fran O'Connell and city councilor Anthony Soto. All three are democrats, born and bred in Holyoke - but with very different personal stories. NEPR's Karen Brown takes us through the candidates and the issues.
Politics /Public Policy	9/18	5:45 a.m. 7:45 a.m.	4:12	MA	Tomorrow, thousands of delegates attending the Massachusetts democratic convention will gather in Springfield. Western Massachusetts resident and state democratic committee treasurer Nicole LaChapelle was asked why Springfield was chosen to host the event.
Politics /Public Policy	9/23	6:45 a.m. 8:45 a.m.	2:09	MA	Two term incumbent Alex Morse and challenger Fran O'Connell will be on the ballot for Holyoke mayor in November, after a close preliminary election for the top two places.



Politics /Public Policy	9/23	6:45 a.m. 8:45 a.m.	2:24	MA	In Pittsfield, city clerk Linda Tyler topped incumbent mayor Dan Bianchi in yesterday's primary election. The pair beat out two other candidates to advance to November.
Politics /Public Policy	9/24	6:35 a.m. 8:31 a.m.	5:27	MA	Pope Francis will address a joint meeting of Congress today on Capitol Hill. Yesterday, Francis praised U-S bishops for what he called their "generous commitment" to bring healing to victims of sexual abuse by priests. That brought a strong rebuke from advocates who say the bishops acted only under the threat of lawsuits. The advocates often point to Cardinal Bernard Law as a reason for continued mistrust. Law was forced to resign as bishop in Boston after The Boston Globe uncovered documents showing that church authorities had protected priests from prosecution. But despite Law's disgrace in Boston, he found a comfortable and influential second career at the Vatican.
Politics /Public Policy	9/24 9/25	5:44 p.m. 7:53 a.m.	2:23	MA	MGM officials were grilled in Springfield by state gambling regulators - over their proposal to eliminate a 25 story glass hotel tower from their casino plan. The casino's 250 room hotel would instead be in a six story building. The company says it's changing its design to save money as construction costs rise.
Politics /Public Policy	9/24	5:44 p.m.	5:04	MA	It was a historic day on capitol hill today as Pope Francis became the first pontiff to address congress. In the audience were the two democrats representing the western half of Massachusetts in the US House. Richie Neal and Jim McGovern found a lot to praise in the Pope's remarks.
Politics /Public Policy (Edu.)	9/25	5:40 p.m.	8:35	MA	<b>THE SHORT LIST:</b> The Daily Hampshire Gazette's Larry Parnass and Natalia Muñoz, contributor for El Sol Latino and a public relations consultant, discuss issues of the week. MGM officials were grilled by state gambling regulators—over their proposal to eliminate a 25-story glass hotel tower from their casino plan. The casino's 250 room hotel would instead be in a six-story building. Gaming Commission Chair Steve Crosby asked MGM's Mike Mathis to reiterate the corporation's commitment to the project. Massachusetts Governor Baker wants to raise the cap on charter schools. This often results in pitting public school unions and teachers against politicians and parents. Today's news that House Speaker John Boehner is stepping down puts, if nothing else, a small hitch in the looming government shut down.

Politics /Public Policy	9/29	7:45 a.m.	2:45	MA	Massachusetts Governor Charlie Baker is calling for swift changes in how the state's embattled department of children and families operates. This comes in the wake of several high profile deaths of children, whose cases had at one time or another been looked into by DCF caseworkers. WBUR's statehouse reporter Steve brown outlines what the governor's trying to do.
Public Health	7/22	7:51 a.m.	4:47	MA	With so much fresh produce for sale this time of year, it may be hard to imagine there are people in New England who have trouble getting access to it. But that's the case for some of the elderly, disabled and poor, who don't own cars and who live in neighborhoods with few or no grocery stores. a farmers market on wheels is trying to address the problem in Springfield.
Public Health	8/13	7:51 a.m.	2:03	MA	Almost three years after voters approved medical marijuana, the first dispensary in western Massachusetts is expected to open soon in Northampton. Last night, the dispensary held a coming out party of sorts.
Public Health	9/18	6:45 a.m. 8:45 a.m.	4:58	MA	The first medical marijuana dispensary in western Massachusetts may be open for business as soon as next week in Northampton. The operators have been busy... signing up new patients, training employees and of course, producing a lot of marijuana.
Public Health	9/28	6:36 a.m.	4:25	MA	As of this week, drug addicts seeking recovery treatment in Massachusetts are required to get 14 days of in patient care. That's under a law the legislature passed last year. Now the state senate will debate a wider ranging bill aimed at addressing opiate addiction. State house reporter matt murphy says part of the bill would require schools to screen 7th and 10th graders for signs of behavior that could lead to drug addiction.
Science	7/14	6:45 a.m. 8:45 a.m.	4:28	MA	UMass-Amherst biologist Diane Kelly discusses her research into reproduction and evolution on her recently launched a blog on gizmodo with the tongue-in-cheek title "throb".
Science	8/19	4:44 p.m.	1:25	MA	Hunting for fireflies at dusk is a staple of summertime fun. But for years, no one knew exactly how the bugs emitted their signature glow. New research claims to have the answer.