

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

Issues/Programs List

March 1, 2016 through June 30, 2016

This report lists representative examples of reporting on local issues that aired in program segments reserved for local feature-length news reports, interviews and commentaries within *Morning Edition*, *All Things Considered* and *Weekend Edition*. It is not a comprehensive list but rather is illustrative of the total programming broadcast.

This local programming includes *The Short List*, broadcast on Fridays at 5:50 p.m. during *All Things Considered*, an eight-and-a-half minute roundtable discussion with a rotating panel of journalists and media professionals that analyzes the major issues in the news.

In addition to the feature-length reports listed here, local newscasts were broadcast immediately following national newscasts during *Morning Edition*, *All Things Considered*, and *Weekend Edition*.

Finally, many reports and discussions on the same and related subjects were also included in the broadcasts of such national news and information programs as *Morning Edition*, *All Things Considered*, *Marketplace*, *Fresh Air*, *Weekend Edition*, *On Point*, *The Takeaway* and others.

Issues

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

Reports on *Morning Edition*, *All Things Considered*, and *Weekend Edition*

Topic	Date	Time	Length	State	Summary
Arts & Culture	4/1	6:45 a.m. 8:45 a.m.	4:53	MA	Using grazing animals to control vegetation at solar farms is not a new idea. Livestock are much less likely to damage panels and cables than commercial lawnmowers. But pasturing sheep, goats or cows at solar farms is not without its problems. Today reporter Laurie Sanders describes a new approach that's getting results, and attention. (April Fools!)
Arts & Culture	4/2	8:35 a.m. 10:35 a.m.	3:55	MA	There are many similarities between the Nordic countries and New England. And the two regions share a number of forageable and garden grown ingredients. Those take center stage in photographs in Darra Goldstein's cookbook "fire and ice: classic Nordic cooking." She says the photos were taken in and outside of her Williamstown home by a Swedish photographer who's up for a James Beard award next month.
Arts & Culture	4/12	7:45 a.m.	4:29	MA	With their new pitching ace - David Price - on the mound for the team's 105th home opening game yesterday, the Red Sox lost to the un-defeated Baltimore Orioles 9 to 7. The highly touted pitcher gave up five runs and stayed in game just five innings. But as WBUR's Anthony Brooks reports, opening day at Fenway is all about optimism.
Arts & Culture	4/15	7:51 a.m.	4:35	MA	Springfield Massachusetts may be the birthplace of basketball, and home to the Basketball Hall of Fame, but it's another sport that's getting a lot of attention this week. Hockey has nearly a century of history in the city, and is home to the American Hockey League's front office. But the Springfield Falcons could be moving west. To find out what that would mean for fans, we turn to Tim Culverhouse, who covers hockey for the Republican newspaper.

Arts & Culture	4/19	4:44 p.m.	3:52	MA	The Springfield Falcons hockey team has been sold, and will likely move to Arizona. The news was confirmed this morning by the Springfield Republican's Ron Chimelis, who says the team's owner, Charlie Pompea, couldn't keep the franchise going. The reason he told Chimelis -- not enough fans.
Arts & Culture	4/26	6:45 a.m. 8:45 a.m.	4:09	MA	The NFL season could begin this September without one of the league's biggest stars. A federal appeals court has re-instated the four game suspension of New England Patriots Quarterback Tom Brady over the deflation of footballs in a play-off game two seasons ago. As WBUR's David Boeri tells us, this time legal observers do not expect another come back.
Arts & Culture	4/30	8:35 a.m. 10:35 a.m.	3:58	MA	Most New Englanders are no strangers to lighthouses, and after researching them for his new book, Eric Jay Dolin of Marblehead, Massachusetts is an expert. "Brilliant Beacons" explains the history of American lighthouses - and those who care for them.
Arts & Culture	5/3	6:36 a.m. 8:31 a.m.	3:38	MA	Funeral services were held in Springfield yesterday for Ron Brace, a city native and former defensive tackle for the New England Patriots, who died unexpectedly late last month at the age of 29. Brace was the Patriots' number two draft pick in 2009 and played four seasons.
Arts & Culture	5/5	6:45 a.m. 8:45 a.m.	2:18	MA	Nine years after the congressional gold medal was awarded to the Tuskegee Airmen, a local member of the famed World War II flying crew finally received his honor.

Arts & Culture	5/5	5:50 p.m.	4:59	MA	In his new book, American's War for the Greater Middle East, retired Boston University history professor and former army colonel Andrew Bacevich chronicles decades of US Foreign Policy. Bacevich's own son was killed while serving in Iraq. He says his book intends to show that US Military involvement in the region's conflicts predates 9/11 by 20 years.
Arts & Culture	5/17	4:20 p.m. 6:20 p.m.	3:19	MA	Letters between Sylvia Plath and her mother's close friend have found a new home at her alma mater, Smith College. NEPR's Katherine Hazen reports, these letters show a lesser known side of the iconic poet... who committed suicide at the age of 30.
Arts & Culture	5/17	4:20 p.m. 6:20 p.m.	4:48	MA	Poet Wallace Stevens, less known than his contemporaries like T.S. Eliot, lived an enigmatic and in many ways ordinary life. That's according to a new biography by Paul Mariani called "The Whole Harmonium: The Life of Wallace Stevens." Mariani reveals how, while living and working as an insurance executive in Hartford, Connecticut, Stevens crafted Masterful Poetry.
Arts & Culture	5/21	8:35 a.m. 10:35 a.m.	4:21	MA	According to a newly released book - "Wildflowers of New England" there are over eleven hundred kinds of wildflowers out there. To see how this new guide worked in the real world, we spoke with author Ted Elliman who says first determine the color of the flower.
Arts & Culture	6/3	6:33 a.m. 8:33 a.m.	7:32	MA	We collected some summer reading recommendations from the experts - librarians and booksellers around Western Massachusetts. Our summer fiction series begins with writer Noy Holland of UMass.
Arts & Culture	6/10	6:33 a.m. 8:33 a.m.	4:48	MA	Christopher Boucher's new novel, Golden Delicious, is a straight forward story about a boy growing up in Western Massachusetts.

Arts & Culture	6/15	4:24 p.m. 6:24 p.m.	3:50	MA	Springfield's new American Hockey League team will be called the Thunderbirds. Team management announced the name today, saying it's a tribute to history and to the region's connection to the air force. Springfield Republican sportswriter and columnist Ron Chimelis gives the new name and its bright blue bird logo a thumbs up.
Arts & Culture	6/16	4:20 p.m.	1:30	CT	Vigils continue around the country for those killed in Orlando. A thousand people or more turned out last night for one in Northampton, Massachusetts. And this week the Islamic Association of Greater Hartford hosted an interfaith vigil at the Berlin Mosque. Reverend Kari Joy Nicewander of Immanuel Congregational Church in Hartford; Doctor Reza Mansoor, President of the Islamic Association of Greater Hartford; and Rabbi Herb Brockman of Congregation Mishkan Israel in Hamden, Connecticut.
Arts & Culture	6/17	6:45 a.m. 8:45 a.m.	4:46	MA	"Thieves Never Steal in the Rain" is a short story collection from Northampton, Massachusetts resident Marisa Labozzetta. The stories follow one large Italian family.
Arts & Culture	6/22	6:22 a.m. 8:22 a.m.	7:26	CT	In May of 1939, Jewish ten-year-old Ivan Backer boarded a train in Nazi-occupied Prague, headed for the United Kingdom. he was one of over 600 children taken to safety on "kindertransport" trains, organized by a British stockbroker, Nicholas Winton. Seventy-seven years later, backer is a former episcopal minister and neighborhood activist living in Hartford -- and he's written a memoir, <i>My Train to Freedom</i> .
Arts & Culture	6/24	6:35 a.m. 8:31 a.m.	5:28	MA	A Korean American Family's story of lies, identity and loss. That's what you'll find in "Shelter," the debut novel of Jung Yun - who until this month taught at UMass Amherst.

Arts & Culture	6/28	5:40 p.m.	7:37	MA	The Clark Art Institute in Williamstown is now exploring how powerful - and uncomfortable - nude images can be. A new exhibition explores how that tension played out in Spain during the repressive inquisition. WBUR's Andrea Shea reports on the masterworks on loan from a museum in Spain.
Community Voices	4/15	7:51 a.m.	2:36	MA	Spring has arrived, and the days are warming up. The Red Sox are back at it... around these seemingly separate events, commentator Rob Cox has a theory: baseball causes global warming. Cox, an historian, geologist and lover of all types of baked pie, says he has the evidence. Cox is head of special collections at UMass Amherst, and author of the book "New England Pie: History Under a Crust."
Community Voices	5/5	6:45 a.m. 8:45 a.m.	2:36	CT	Lisa Kassow directs Hillel at Trinity College in Hartford. Hillel is an international Jewish student organization. Kassow is just back from Poland, where she helped inaugurate Warsaw's first Hillel. It is a poignant connection to the college-age Jewish men and women in 1943 - who lead the Warsaw ghetto uprising against the Nazis - and to the millions of Jews killed in the Holocaust. We bring you her commentary this Holocaust remembrance day.
Community Voices	5/18	7:51 a.m.	2:52	MA	Fourteen years ago, Liz Whynott was a heroin addict. She entered detox in Greenfield, didn't leave like she had other times... and went on to treatment. She has stayed drug-free. Whynott now runs two needle exchange programs for tapestry health in Holyoke and Northampton, and she counsels addicts when they come in. The needle exchange in Holyoke could close this summer after a judge ruled it should never have opened without city council approval. The uncertainty over the program's future is why Whynott is now speaking up about her past.

Community Voices	6/10	6:33 a.m. 8:33 a.m.	2:25	MA	Reading his grandson's daily updates from pre-school has gotten writer and commentator Robert Chipkin thinking... maybe they'd be useful for some adults he's been listening to lately...
Community Voices	6/10	7:50 a.m.	2:47	MA	As a boy, our commentator Robert Floyd worshipped Davy Crockett, who fought for what he believed in, noth in Congress and at the Alamo. Later, Floyed shifted his allegiance to Muhammad Ali... who will be remembered this afternoon during a public celebration of his life.
Community Voices	6/17	7:45 a.m.	2:49	MA	This week we've brought you stories of the victims and survivors of the mass shooting at a gay nightclub in Orlando. A year ago our airwaves and website were filled with stories of another mass shooting, at a historic black church in Charleston, South Carolina. On the anniversary of the carnage at Mother Emmanuel, commentator Mark Edington - an episcopal priest - recalls his journey there last year.
Economic Development	4/20	6:22 a.m. 8:22 a.m.	7:10	MA	In Massachusetts, local governments have been able to rely less and less on state money to pay their bills. That's one of the findings of a report out this month from the state auditor. For many communities, this means much of their funds for road repair, fire departments, police - is coming from property taxes. This is a problem in college towns - where a lot of valuable property is owned by nonprofits that are tax exempt. Northampton Massachusetts is the latest community to try out one possible solution - but it's controversial.

Economic Development	5/2	7:45 a.m.	3:49	MA	In the past few years, foreclosure notices have climbed rapidly for seniors who've taken out reverse mortgages. That's when a homeowner gets monthly payments based on the value of their home. The loans don't come due until a borrower dies or moves out - but they're still required to make tax and insurance payments on the property. Some have fallen behind on those payments, and now face the possibility of losing their homes. Jenifer McKim reported on this for the New England Center for Investigative Reporting.
Economic Development	5/6	6:45 a.m. 8:45 a.m.	4:58	MA	A new study from farm advocates shows nearly a third of all farm operators in New England are 65 or older. Of those older farmer, just over 90 percent don't have anyone working with them who's under 45. This spells a problem for the future of farming in the region. Cris Coffin is the policy director at Land for Good, one of the organizations that conducted this research.
Economic Development	5/17	6:45 a.m. 8:45 a.m.	3:59	MA	Toll collectors on the Massachusetts turnpike will be going the way of the milkman, video store clerk and long distance phone operator this fall. In October, an all-electronic system of collecting fares to use the highway will come on-line -- and over 400 employees will be displaced. State officials and industry experts say the change will make for a safer, more efficient roadway.
Economic Development	5/18	6:45 a.m. 8:45 a.m.	1:54	CT	The city says developers of Hartford's new Minor League baseball park did not meet yesterday's deadline to deliver a substantially complete stadium. As WNPR's Jeff Cohen reports, the planned May 31st opening day for the Hartford Yard Goats likely won't happen either.

Economic Development	5/31	7:50 a.m. 5:20 p.m.	8:05	MA	Five years ago... a tornado whipped across the Connecticut river valley - plucking trees, destroying homes - and killing at least three people. Springfield was one of the places hardest hit. In just one neighborhood, known as Maple high-six corners, 132 apartments and houses were condemned. As Nancy Cohen reports, some people lost everything and moved away. But the storm is also bringing in millions of government dollars, and more people are getting involved in the community.
Economic Development	6/1	7:50 a.m. 5:20 p.m.	8:21	MA	Five years ago today, an F-3 tornado with wind speeds between 150 and 200 mph, swept through eight communities across Western and Central Massachusetts, from Westfield East to Southbridge. One of the hardest hit was Monson, where the tornado cut a nearly half mile swath of devastation through the center of town of about 8,500 residents. NEPR's Kari Njiiri reports on the progress of rebuilding and recovery.
Economic Development	6/21	6:45 a.m. 8:45 a.m.	3:10	MA	The green crab is an invasive predator that's been destroying clam and scallop populations from South Carolina to Maine - since they were introduced here two centuries ago. Now, some New England Chefs are looking for ways to put this invasive species on the menu. New Hampshire Public Radio's Emily Corwin reports.

Economic Development	6/29	6:35 a.m. 8:31 a.m.	4:51	VT	Vermont's so-called "GMO labeling" law will go into effect this Friday. It requires manufacturers to label foods made with genetic engineering. Connecticut and Maine passed similar laws, but those would only require labels if nearby states join the bandwagon. Massachusetts, New York and Rhode Island are considering similar legislation. The Vermont law has prompted efforts in congress to write national standards, even as federal authorities argue that genetically engineered crops aren't different from other foods. For the New England News Collaborative, Vermont Public Radio's Kathleen Masterson reports.
Economic Development	6/29	5:40 p.m.	3:41	MA	An unusual affordable housing development for previously homeless veterans is now open at the VA in Leeds, Massachusetts. The project - modeled after one in Pittsfield - gives tenants a chance to purchase equity in their home. Also new at the VA campus - a 16 bedroom temporary housing center for Women veterans and their children. The facilities are run by the group "soldier on." It's President, Jack Downing, spoke to NEPR's Susan Kaplan.
Education	4/6	5:44 p.m.	4:00	MA	Hampshire College received a \$1.2 million grant from the Mellon Foundation to re-tool their library. They're not alone, as many libraries are getting 21st century makeovers. Cara Pinto is a librarian at Mount Holyoke, and she says that despite these changes most people's perception of libraries haven't changed.

Education	5/19	6:22 a.m. 8:22 a.m.	6:25	MA	Massachusetts Secretary of Education Jim Peyser was recently the guest speaker at a public forum outside of Boston. During the Q&A, someone asked him about teacher certification. "I don't really understand teacher certification as a necessary requirement for teachers to be in the field," he replied. Right now, the Massachusetts Department of Elementary and Secondary Education is reviewing how it certifies teachers. The goal: simplify the process. So which elements to keep and which to drop?
Education	6/27 6/28	5:50 p.m. 7:22 a.m.	3:49	MA	Massachusetts education officials say more than 30 schools and districts across the state suspend students more than they should. A publicly released list shows a number of those cited are in Western Massachusetts and some administrators from these communities say the numbers don't tell the whole story.
Energy /Environment	4/5 4/6	5:44 p.m. 7:45 a.m.	2:13	MA	The CEO of General Electric has broken his silence over the company's dispute with the Federal Environmental Protection Agency. GE polluted the Housatonic River with PCBs decades ago when it ran a factory in Pittsfield and has been butting heads with the EPA over the second phase of river clean-up.
Energy /Environment	4/5 4/6	5:44 p.m. 7:45 a.m.	1:47	MA	Some of your favorite local fruits, from peaches and plums to apples and cherries, could be in short supply later this year. NEPR's Kari Njiiri reports the cold weather of the last few days has made a shortage more likely.

Energy /Environment	4/14	6:45 a.m. 8:45 a.m.	3:01	MA	Kinder Morgan's injunction request on a natural gas pipeline passing through the Southern Berkshire County town of Sanisfield goes before a judge on Friday. The path could take the pipeline through state-owned conservation land. The case could have an impact on a larger project the company is proposing, which would run through northern Massachusetts and Southern New Hampshire.
Energy /Environment	4/15	6:45 a.m. 8:45 a.m.	5:06	VT	As the Vermont Yankee Nuclear Power Plant continues its decommission, so too does the process of notifying nearby communities in case of an emergency. NEPR's Kari Njiiri reports the long standing emergency planning zone will shrink starting Tuesday.
Energy /Environment	4/21	6:45 a.m. 8:45 a.m.	3:45	MA	Massachusetts Congressman Jim McGovern calls the decision by Kinder Morgan to shelve plans for a natural gas pipeline "a big victory for Western Massachusetts." The Texas based pipeline company has announced its suspending plans for the controversial pipeline - which would have run from New York through Western Massachusetts and Southern New Hampshire, ending in Eastern Mass. As WBUR's Bruce Gellerman reports, Kinder Morgan's announcement excited opponents, saddened supporters, and surprised just about everyone.
Energy /Environment	5/18	6:45 a.m. 8:45 a.m.	2:56	MA	Massachusetts' highest court says the state has failed to meet a self-imposed legal obligation to limit greenhouse gas emissions. WBUR's David Boeri has the story.

Energy /Environment	6/4	8:35 a.m. 10:35 a.m.	3:54	MA	About three dozen power company employees, contractors and state wildlife experts attended an unusual training this week in Agawam, Massachusetts. Nesting in sand and gravel, the protected Eastern Box Turtle is right at home under power lines. Eversource requires those who work under those lines - either to mow, or use heavy equipment - to take the so-called turtle class annually. Frank Poirot of Eversource tells me the class gives the contractors something to think about.
Energy /Environment	6/10	7:50 a.m.	5:02	MA	A new kind of water contamination has shown up all over the US, including New England. It'd a chemical used to manufacture everything from Teflon pans to firefighting foam and microwave popcorn bags. It's forced some communities to hand out bottled water and shut down their water systems. Although companies have stopped using this chemical, a replacement compound is causing concerns. For the New England News Collaborative and NHPR, Emily Corwin reports.
Energy /Environment	6/16	6:45 a.m. 8:45 a.m.	5:00	VT	As reliance on solar and wind energy grows, so does the challenge of reliability. Vermont's largest utility has launched a first in the country project, selling 500 Telsa home batteries to customers. Green mountain power is betting this could be the wave of the future, as Vermont Public Radio's Kathleen Masterson reports.
Energy /Environment	6/23	6:22 a.m. 8:22 a.m.	5:22	MA	President Obama has just signed into law the updated and long awaited "Toxic Substance Control Act." It was first passed forty years ago and for almost as long, lawmakers, the chemical industry, and environmental advocates agreed - the law was ineffective. Meanwhile states have stepped up with their own chemical safety regulations. As NEPR's Jill Kaufman reports, under the new federal law, they could lose some authority.

Justice, Law & Public Safety	4/27	6:45 a.m. 8:45 a.m.	4:50	MA	Last September, a Springfield man was arrested over a minor charge... 57 year old Jerry Bradley died in police custody just over a day later. Two officers were suspended in the case, but Bradley's family is still looking for answers. The story was reported this week by Dan Glaun of MassLive. He says Bradley was in the passenger seat of a car that was pulled over for a missing inspection sticker.
Justice, Law & Public Safety	5/4	7:51 a.m.	8:10	MA	Sixteen employees of Eagleton School in Great Barrington, Massachusetts now face criminal charges over the mistreatment of emotionally disabled students. On State orders, the 39 year old institution has shut down. Eagleton was the second school in Western Mass to be accused of abuse and neglect in a year. Peck School in Holyoke was also the subject of a scathing report. NEPR's Karen Brown looks into how this can happen... and what can be done.
Justice, Law & Public Policy	5/5 5/6	4:44 p.m. 7:51 a.m.	1:58	MA	The Massachusetts Supreme Judicial Court heard arguments today about a Lenox woman charged with drunk driving. Her Attorney argued the woman should have had the chance to speak with an attorney... before taking a breathalyzer test.
Justice, Law & Public Policy	5/5	5:20 p.m.	8:10	MA	Sixteen employees of Eagleton School in Great Barrington, Massachusetts now face criminal charges over the mistreatment of emotionally disabled students. On State orders, the 39 year old institution has shut down. Eagleton was the second school in Western Mass to be accused of abuse and neglect in a year. Peck School in Holyoke was also the subject of a scathing report. NEPR's Karen Brown looks into how this can happen... and what can be done.

Justice, Law & Public Policy	5/5 5/6	5:50 p.m. 7:51 a.m.	2:55	MA	This year is the 50th anniversary of the court case that brought you the word - "you have the right to remain silent." and all this week, the northwestern district attorney's office is teaching Miranda rights to high schoolers around Western Massachusetts.
Justice, Law & Public Policy	5/11	7:45 a.m.	3:05	MA	Longmeadow town meeting went late last night. The gathering had picked up extra attention after the national rifle association urged its members to show up and fight a handful of gun control measures. Residents voted down all three proposals.
Justice, Law & Public Safety	5/13	7:45 a.m.	2:14	MA	State police in both Massachusetts and New Hampshire have each relieved one of their troopers from duty while they investigate the apparent beating of a suspect recorded live by television news crews. The suspect, a Worcester man, was arrested yesterday afternoon after a high speed chase that began in Holden Massachusetts and ended in Nashua New Hampshire. WBUR's David Boeri Reports
Justice, Law & Public Policy	5/23	7:45 a.m.	4:47	MA	Defense attorneys in Massachusetts are still waiting to find out how the fiascos at state drug labs over the last few years will affect thousands of criminal cases. Going forward, state officials say the drug labs are in much better shape, but not everyone is one hundred percent convinced.
Justice, Law & Public Safety	6/2	5:15 p.m.	3:19	MA	Five courts in Massachusetts specifically deal with veterans who get into trouble with the law. The newest opened last November in Holyoke with two participants. Today, Judge Laurie Macleod says the number's risen to 19. Macleod says the aim is to hold defendants accountable while honoring their military service and mandating treatment. Macleod says many times veterans who land in court don't even self-identify as vets. She says too often they're embarrassed... ashamed.

Justice, Law & Public Safety	6/15	7:45 a.m.	4:45	MA	Massachusetts Governor Charlie Baker has taken his first steps toward shaping the future of the state's highest court. The Republican Governor has named three superior court judges to positions on the Supreme Judicial Court. WBUR's Steve Brown has more on the appointments, as well as reaction to the choices.
Justice, Law & Public Safety	6/16	4:20 p.m.	6:43	MA	The shooting rampage in Orlando has reignited the debate around gun control. Florida has some of the least restrictive gun laws in the country, which allowed the shooter to purchase an assault rifle and high capacity magazines. That would not have been possible in Massachusetts, which has some of the nation's strictest gun laws. But as WBUR's Anthony Brooks reports, there's still an active debate about how effective those laws are.
Politics /Public Policy	4/1	7:45 a.m.	5:05	MA	North Carolina has received a lot of attention this week over a new law limiting legal protections for transgender people. In Massachusetts, a bill to prohibit discrimination in public accommodations remains bottled up in a legislative committee. WBUR's Steve Brown reports.

Politics /Public Policy	4/1	5:50 p.m.	7:57	MA	The Short List: Natalia Muñoz, a marketing consultant and the host of the talk show “ Vaya con Muñoz ” on WHMP, and Matt Szafranski from the Western Mass Politics and Insight Blog discuss the issues of the week. State Senate Democrats introduced a compromise bill yesterday to raise the limit on charter schools, but only if general state education aid is increased. A story by the New England Center for Investigative Reporting this week says that Massachusetts is looking more closely at the practice of compensating college administrators. A new phenomenon in solar farm landscaping... guinea pigs are now being deployed to munch the grass around some solar farms.
Politics /Public Policy	4/4	6:45 a.m. 8:45 a.m.	4:47	MA	There's a wide variety of hearings and topics ahead at the statehouse this week. One likely contentious formal session will be held on Thursday, as the Massachusetts Senate considers charter school expansion legislation. Matt Murphy at the statehouse news service says the compromise bill has charter backers and opponents both unhappy.
Politics /Public Policy	4/8	5:50 p.m.	7:18	MA	The Short List: Matt Szafranski of the Western Mass Politics and Insight Blog and Mike Dobbs from The Reminder Newspapers discuss the issues of the week. The Springfield City Council wants residency requirements for city workers, but the Mayor Domenic Sarno says he should have the final say. The highest court in Massachusetts will now consider whether judges can hand down sentences that are shorter than legislatively mandated minimums. State lawmakers are getting involved in wildlife officials’ plans to put endangered rattlesnakes on an island at Quabbin Reservoir that’s off limits to visitors.

Politics /Public Policy	4/11	6:45 a.m. 8:45 a.m.	4:33	MA	While Massachusetts Governor Charlie Baker filed his 2017 fiscal year budget months ago, this week the House puts out its version. State House News Service reporter Matt Murphy says the Speaker of the House wants to limit the state's spending growth. Possibly even more so than Governor Baker.
Politics /Public Policy	4/18	6:45 a.m. 8:45 a.m.	4:54	MA	It may be Patriot's day in the state of Massachusetts, but Beacon Hill lawmakers are busy preparing for "budget week." NEPR's Carrie Healy spoke with reporter Matt Murphy from the statehouse news about what's ahead.
Politics /Public Policy	4/22	5:50 p.m.	7:05	MA	The Short List: Mike Dobbs of the Reminder newspapers and Ron Chimelis of the Springfield Republican discuss the issues of the week. Natural gas pipeline company Kinder Morgan halted its plans for a pipeline, which in part, would have run through northern Massachusetts and southern New Hampshire. The Springfield Falcons hockey team is sold and is likely headed for Arizona. The Berkshire Eagle newspaper gets new owners. They have local ties — and see “citizen journalists” as part of the answer to success.
Politics /Public Policy	4/25	6:45 a.m. 8:45 a.m.	3:46	MA	After a relatively quiet week on Beacon Hill, the budget will now be the likeliest headliner for the week from Boston. But there are also bills to debate about restricting the sale of tobacco products, and another to prevent the theft of metals from job sites, vacant homes and public spaces. To get a closer look at what's ahead this week, we turn to Statehouse News Service reporter Andy Metzger.

Politics /Public Policy	4/29	7:45 a.m. 4:44 p.m.	3:23	MA	Republicans are expecting record turn-out at caucuses tomorrow to choose delegates to the republican national convention in July. 27 out of the state's 42 delegates will be chosen tomorrow. The primary determined who those delegates must support on the first ballot. But as WBUR's Fred Thys explains, there's concern about who the delegates might back after that.
Politics /Public Policy	4/29	5:50 p.m.	7:20	MA	The Short List: Natalia Munoz from “Vaya Con Munoz” on WHMP and Larry Parnass of the Daily Hampshire Gazette discuss the issues of the week. This weekend, more than half of Massachusetts’ delegates to the Republican National Convention will be elected at caucuses around the state, and top Massachusetts republicans are growing increasingly convinced that Donald Trump will secure the GOP nomination. The Massachusetts Senate voted overwhelmingly to up the age you can buy cigarettes to 21. The Massachusetts Gaming Commission yesterday nixed a proposal for a casino in Brockton
Politics /Public Policy	5/2	6:45 a.m. 8:45 a.m.	3:58	MA	Tomorrow is the deadline for candidates to submit nomination papers to get on the ballot. Republicans have long been in the minority in the legislature - but the party now controls the Governor's office and saw high turnout in its presidential primary earlier this year. We check in with state house reporter Matt Murphy, who tells us if the GOP plans to make a push to pick up more legislative seats.

Politics /Public Policy	5/3	5:41 p.m.	6:17	MA	As Bernie Sanders looks for an upset victory in Indiana today, his campaign has begun talking about shifting its focus to influence on the party platform. Among the academics providing ideas and support to Sanders' positions are a group of economists at UMass Amherst. Hillary Clinton and other critics accuse Sanders of not thinking through some proposals. But as WBUR's Fred Thys tells us, the UMass scholars are ready to refute those claims.
Politics /Public Policy	5/5	6:45 a.m. 8:45 a.m.	4:36	CT	Connecticut's regular legislative session ended at midnight last night without a final vote on the state's budget. That's been on the forefront of lawmakers work this session, as the state faces a one billion dollar deficit for the next fiscal year. To break down what exactly happened at the end of the session we spoke with WSHU's state capitol reporter Ebong Udoma.
Politics /Public Policy	5/6	5:50 p.m.	8:03	MA	The Short List: Rick Hurst, publisher of the African American Point of View newspaper, and Matt Szafranski of the Western Mass Politics & Insight blog discuss the issues of the week. Up to 30,000 drug cases involved testing and/or testimony of former chemist Sonja Farak who worked in the Amherst, Massachusetts Police drug lab. Massachusetts Attorney General Maura Healey said that Farak used drugs on the job nearly every day for eight years. The Massachusetts Senate is scheduled to vote next week on a transgender bill; Governor Charlie Baker is still on the fence. Hockey in Springfield, Massachusetts. One team leaves and another is on its way: is this sustainable?

Politics /Public Policy	5/9	6:45 a.m. 8:45 a.m.	4:36	MA	On Thursday, the State Senate is planning to vote on a bill that would extend public accommodation rights to transgender individuals. That includes bathrooms and other public spaces. This has been a hotly debated bill for months. State House reporter Matt Murphy tells us what we can expect from the Senate debate on Thursday.
Politics /Public Policy	5/10	7:51 a.m.	8:07	MA	Justin Bonoyer is a 16 year old at Ponaganset high school in Northern Rhode Island. Until a few weeks ago, his coaches knew him as Elise Bonoyer, although he'd already come out to most of his teammates. After bathrooms - locker rooms and fields may be the next transgender cultural battleground for young people. How the courts interpret title nine may be the deciding factor. WBUR's Martha Bebinger has the story.
Politics /Public Policy	5/13	7:45 a.m.	2:13	MA	The Massachusetts Senate has given overwhelming support to a bill prohibiting discrimination against transgender people in the area of public accommodations. WBUR's Steve Brown has more from the State House in Boston.
Politics /Public Policy	5/13	5:50 p.m.	7:23	MA	The Short List: Ron Chimelis of the Springfield Republican and Rick Hurst, publisher of African American Point of View. A proposed by-law to regulate guns fails to pass in Longmeadow, Massachusetts. The candidates for Hampden County Sheriff's race debated for the first time. Friendly's — the Wilbraham, Massachusetts-based company — announced it will sell its ice-cream making operations to Dean Foods of Dallas for 155 million dollars.

Politics /Public Policy	5/16	6:45 a.m. 8:45 a.m.	4:18	MA	Massachusetts lawmakers will take up a measure known as the "millionaire tax" this week. The proposal would be an amendment to the state constitution. It would add a 4 percent surtax to all personal incomes over a million dollars per year in Massachusetts. The measure needs to clear several hurdles in order to move forward. State House reporter Matt Murphy tells us what the first steps are.
Politics /Public Policy	5/18	7:51 a.m.	3:26	MA	Massachusetts lawmakers meeting jointly in a constitutional convention this afternoon are expected to take a significant step toward changing the Commonwealth's 236 year old constitution. They will be asked to decide whether an individual's earning above one million dollars a year should be subject to an additional 4% tax. The state constitution prohibits a graduated income tax. WBUR's Steve Brown looks at the so-called "Millionaire's Tax" and the steps needed to amend the state's constitution.
Politics /Public Policy	5/20	6:45 a.m. 8:45 a.m.	4:44	MA	Massachusetts Republicans could turn to one of their own, if they're looking for an alternative to Donald Trump. Former Massachusetts Governor Bill Weld is becoming a libertarian candidate for vice president, running alongside libertarian presidential hopeful Gary Johnson - a former Governor of New Mexico. WBUR's Anthony Brooks has this look at the Johnson-Weld ticket.

Politics /Public Policy	5/20	5:50 p.m.	7:31	MA	The Short List: The Daily Hampshire Gazette's Larry Parnass and Matt Szafranski of the Western Mass Politics and Insight Blog. The Massachusetts legislature has advanced a constitutional amendment to levy a so-called "millionaire's tax." Today in Holyoke the western Massachusetts veterans court gets its official grand opening. Like drug courts these are specially designated courts for veterans who get into trouble with the law. Former Massachusetts Governor Bill Weld is becoming a libertarian candidate for vice president, running alongside presidential hopeful Gary Johnson—a former governor of New Mexico.
Politics /Public Politics	5/23	6:45 a.m. 8:45 a.m.	4:52	MA	The Massachusetts Senate takes its swing at the budget. The House has already passed its version. Tomorrow, Senate lawmakers will start breezing through over 11-hundred amendments that were proposed for the spending plan. Matt Murphy of the State House News Service says there's one especially interesting amendment in the bunch.
Politics /Public Politics	5/24	6:33 a.m. 8:33 a.m.	7:17	MA	By mid-June, the Massachusetts House will take up a bill that would extend non-discrimination rights to transgender individuals. Under the bill, transgender people would explicitly have the right to use all public facilities - including restrooms and locker rooms. A version of this has already been passed by the Senate. We hear one of two opinions on this issue, Tynan Power who is a transgender and progressive Muslim activist - and a transgender man.
Politics /Public Politics	5/25	6:33 a.m. 8:33 a.m.	7:13	MA	This week, we're hearing two opinions on a Massachusetts bill to expand public accommodation rights to the transgender community. The law would allow transgender individuals to use all public spaces without discrimination. Bishop Talbert Swan, president of the Springfield NAACP has some criticisms of the bill.

Politics /Public Politics	5/27	5:50 p.m.	7:40	MA	The Short List High speed trains, UMass endowment dumps fossil fuels, memorial day: bridging the civilian military disconnect.
Politics /Public Politics	5/30	6:45 a.m. 8:45 a.m.	4:33	MA	It's now up to a conference committee to work out a compromise plan for Massachusetts; budget for the fiscal year that starts in July. The State Senate passed its version of the budget last week, and senators tacked on many policy priorities to the spending plan. Reporter Matt Murphy from the State House news service spoke about some of the measures the Senate hopes to push through.
Politics /Public Politics	5/30	7:45 a.m.	5:05	MA	Former Massachusetts Governor Bill Weld, until a few weeks ago a Republican, is now the vice presidential candidate for the Libertarian Party. He joins former Republican Governor of New Mexico, Gary Johnson on the ticket. Weld won VP nomination after a long day in which the outcome was very much in doubt. Fred Thys reports from Orlando, where Libertarians held their national convention this weekend.
Politics /Public Politics	6/3	5:50 p.m.	8:03	MA	The Short List Anti-Semitic incidents, immigration police policy, tornado 5yrs.
Politics /Public Policy	6/6	6:45 a.m. 8:45 a.m.	4:09	MA	The next Massachusetts budget is now in the hands of a committee of six lawmakers - they'll work out the differences of the versions of the spending plans passed by the house and senate. Both chambers stuck to a similar bottom line - with no new taxes and a slight up-tick in spending. State House News Service reporter Matt Murphy tells us what still has to be worked out.
Politics /Public Policy	6/13	6:45 a.m. 8:45 a.m.	4:26	MA	With seven weeks left in the current Massachusetts session and lawmakers face a long list of priorities. Matt Murphy of the state house news service discusses a major energy bill passed by the house last week.

Politics /Public Policy	6/13	7:22 a.m.	2:43	MA	US Senator Elizabeth Warren was met by a lot of fans, but also protesters, in Northampton yesterday. A group of Bernie Sanders supporters were upset by Warren's endorsements last week of Hillary Clinton, and the protest is another sign that both sides are struggling to maintain the unity some professed earlier in the campaign season.
Politics /Public Policy	6/17	7:45 a.m.	1:54	MA	Six candidates vying to fill representative Ellen Story's seat in the Massachusetts legislature met for a debate in Amherst this week - though very little was actually debated.
Politics /Public Policy	6/17	4:50 p.m.	7:59	MA	Mass gun laws, state employee sick time, state legislative races.
Politics /Public Policy	6/20	6:45 a.m. 8:45 a.m.	4:16	MA	Despite a solid economy, low unemployment, and a former state budget chief in Gov. Charlie Baker and two former Ways and Means Committee chairs – House Speaker Robert DeLeo and Senate President Stan Rosenberg – running state government, Massachusetts finds itself turning the page on one fiscal year and entering a new one with major questions swirling about spending exceeding revenues in two state budgets.
Politics /Public Policy	6/22	4:40 p.m.	4:02	MA	Massachusetts US Senator Elizabeth Warren will campaign in Ohio next Monday with Presumptive Democratic Presidential Nominee Hillary Clinton. The announcement comes just after news broke that Warren is on Clinton's shortlist for Vice President. Reporter Victoria McGrane has been covering this story for the Boston Globe. She tells us whether she thought the choice to seriously vet Warren for the job would be getting this much attention if Warren wasn't a woman.

Politics /Public Policy	6/24	5:50 p.m.	7:21	MA	The Short List: The Reminder Newspaper's Mike Dobbs and Larry Parnass of the Daily Hampshire Gazette discuss the issues of the week. Massachusetts Senator Elizabeth Warren jumped to Hillary Clinton's VP short list. Democrats in congress hold an overnight sit-in on the floor of the house in an attempt to force gun control measures to a vote following the massacre in Orlando. Also, a happy 100th Birthday to the National Park Service.
Politics /Public Policy	6/27	6:35 a.m. 8:31 a.m.	5:12	MA	At the end of this week Massachusetts welcomes fiscal year 2017. State revenues look to be down about \$750 million dollars, and that's throwing a hitch into finalizing next year's state budget. State House reporter Matt Murphy tells us what the chances are that a budget will be passed in time.
Public Health	4/13	5:44 p.m.	4:00	MA	People diagnosed with generalized anxiety disorder... or GAD... are frequently treated with a common type of short-term therapy called cognitive behavioral therapy. But it might work better if another kind of therapy is thrown into the mix. So says a new study from UMass Amherst psychology professor Michael Constantino. He says therapists in the study were trained to notice when a patient showed ambivalence about their worrying.
Public Health	5/3	7:31 a.m.	4:57	MA	Addiction treatment providers are increasingly recommending that medication be used to help wean people off opioids. But some doctors are concerned there's too much focus on medication. WBUR's Deborah Becker attended a recent conference of addiction treatment providers - some of whom warn there's no quick fix to the growing opioid crisis.

Public Health	6/2	6:33 a.m. 8:33 a.m.	7:12	MA	Veterans injured in war are almost twice as likely as the general population to struggle with chronic pain. Many treat that pain with Percocet, Vicodin or other opioids. Some physicians within the VA have come under fire for over-prescribing these addictive pain meds... but the Bedford VA Medical center has one of the lowest opioid prescribing rates in the country. That's at least partly because of that center's pain school, where veterans learn that medication isn't the only way to manage pain. WBUR's Martha Bebinger takes us on a visit there.
Public Health	6/30	6:35 a.m. 8:31 a.m.	4:08	MA	When doctors accept a cup of coffee from a drug company representative - or a thousand dollar speaking fee - they are not violating any laws. But they may be violating a hospital's policy - or raising questions about conflict of interest. The news organization Pro-Publica has just released national data on the number of doctors who take gifts or payments from pharmaceutical companies. While Massachusetts has one of the lowest rates overall, two Western Massachusetts state hospitals top the list within the state.
Science	4/29	6:33 a.m. 8:33 a.m.	7:02	MA	In the construction industry, the most eco-friendly type of building used to be LEED certified. That's where buildings get different ratings according to how well they conserve energy and other resources. But today, there's a higher standard - the living building - which is meant to be so green it actually leaves the environment better than it found it. There are fewer than a dozen living buildings in the world - and Western Massachusetts may soon be home to four of them.
Science	5/5 5/6	4:44 p.m. 7:51 a.m.	2:01	MA	Throughout life, accidents will happen, bees will sting - and pain is inevitable. It just isn't as bad for some people as for others. NEPR's Jha'Nai Richardson reports a UConn Professor is trying to figure out why.

Science	6/13	7:22 a.m.	3:49	CT	An eighth grader from Southington, Connecticut has taken home top honors at a national invention competition for a device he made to help people communicate through oxygen masks. He beat out over 260 other student entries from 15 states. As WNPR's David Desroches reports, it began when he couldn't talk to his grandmother.
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