

Mrs. Anne Thiel

10/4/2018

WAIC, Springfield, Massachusetts

Issues/Programs List

July 1, 2018 through September 30, 2018

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*, typically 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* and *Living on Earth*.

Issues

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

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### Issues

Arts & Culture  
Community Voices  
Economic Development  
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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	7/6	6:33 a.m. 8:33 a.m.	4:20	MA	After years of editing a lifestyle magazine, Northampton, Massachusetts, writer Debra Jo Immergut has published her first novel. "The Captives" is a thriller about a prison psychologist and the inmate he treats ... and obsesses over. As we continue our summer fiction series, Immergut reads to New England Public Radio's Karen Brown from the first chapter. This is when we learn the doctor has met the woman before -- as a lovesick teenager.
Arts & Culture	7/12	7:45 a.m.	4:51	MA	So much live music is happening around western Massachusetts this weekend. The BSO is at Tanglewood. Some big names will be at the Green River festival in Greenfield. And "The Manzi Family band" is playing Saturday night at The Majestic Theater in West Springfield. You may have never heard of them, but as New England Public Radio's Jill Kaufman reports, for this group -- playing music isn't necessarily about becoming famous.

Arts & Culture	7/12	4:50 p.m.	4:51	MA	So much live music is happening around western Massachusetts this weekend. The BSO is at Tanglewood. Some big names will be at the Green River festival in Greenfield. And "The Manzi Family band" is playing Saturday night at The Majestic Theater in West Springfield. You may have never heard of them, but as New England Public Radio's Jill Kaufman reports, for this group -- playing music isn't necessarily about becoming famous.
Arts & Culture	7/13	6:45 a.m. 8:45 a.m.	4:20	MA	This is New England Public Radio, I'm Carrie Healy. This morning our Summer Fiction Series continues with a mystery called "Death And Turtles." It takes place just before the Depression---in 1934---in England. I met up with author Enid Sichel at her home in South Hadley, Massachusetts...and asked her how she chose the setting for her whodunit.
Arts & Culture	7/20	6:45 a.m.	4:00	MA	In most road trip novels, characters walk or drive or sail as they look for answers to sometimes unanswerable questions. We continue our Summer Fiction Series today with a new road trip story---"The World Is A Narrow Bridge" by Aaron Thier of Great Barrington, Massachusetts. The story revolves around a 20-something couple, Eva and Murphy, who are constantly talking about whether they should have a baby. To complicate matters, God has decided to make an appearance on earth, and taps Eva to basically advertise his existence.

Arts & Culture	7/26	5:51 a.m. 7:51 a.m.	7:15	MA	Best-selling New England author Stephen King's creepy storytelling is fueling a new streaming series that debuts this week on Hulu. "Castle Rock" is set in Maine. But it was largely shot in the western Massachusetts town of Orange, and at a film production studio in Devens. WBUR's Andrea Shea explains why the arrival of this high-profile series is seen as a game-changer for the state's film industry, and for Orange.
Arts & Culture	7/27	5:51 a.m. 7:51 a.m.	4:25	MA	The latest book by Florence, Massachusetts, author Robert V-S Redick, is a fantasy tale about two brothers running for their lives, through a desert during wartime. "Master Assassins" is the latest pick in our Summer Fiction series. New England Public Radio's Adam Frenier sat down with Redick to find out more about the brothers, and their journey.
Arts & Culture	8/2	6:33 a.m. 8:22 a.m.	4:13	VT	A new theater troupe called the Borderline Players is staging its first season of summer performances. And as Vermont Public Radio's Amy Kolb-Noyes reports, audience members can see the show in the US or Canada, depending on where they sit.

Arts & Culture	8/10	6:45 a.m. 8:45 a.m.	5:31	MA	<p>Our summer fiction series is done. And that means it's time for us to focus on the region's younger readers. We start our back-to-school book series this year with Northampton, Massachusetts, writer Jeanne Birdsall and her book "The Penderwicks At Last." It's the fifth book about a growing family in a fictional town called Cameron. Here's Birdsall offering a quick introduction to this family and their friends...and a refresher for those of you who've been reading the Penderwicks since the first book came out in 2005. ...In "The Penderwicks At Last," the story takes place in the Berkshires at a big old house called "Arundel". The four older sisters are in their late teens and early 20s. Step-brother Ben is 16. Lydia -- who was a baby in the last book -- is now 11 years old. And they've reconnected with lifelong friend Jeffrey. Birdsall told new England Public Radio's Jill Kaufman that the narrative is constantly connecting past and present.</p>
Arts & Culture	8/17	6:45 a.m. 8:45 a.m.	5:14	MA	<p>A monkey bakes a cake for a contest -- and every possible thing goes wrong. This same monkey is invited to juggle at a school -- but he has to battle crazy weather and ends up juggling cows. These stories make up the first two books in the Mister Monkey series by Northampton, Massachusetts, author and illustrator Jeff Mack. He spoke with New England Public Radio's Sam Hudzik for our back-to-school book series. Mack travels a lot to speak in elementary schools...and says the idea for Mister Monkey came about on a trip to Houston.</p>

Arts & Culture	8/22	6:22 a.m. 8:22 a.m.	7:25	MA	The influential and iconic Stevie Wonder -- who's sold millions of albums and won dozens of Grammys -- is coming to Springfield September 1st. He'll perform at the MassMutual Center for the first time ever. He's in Springfield because the new MGM casino down the street brought him there. As New England Public Radio's Jill Kaufman reports, MGM says this is just the start of a new kind of entertainment in the city.
Arts & Culture	8/28	5:44 p.m.	3:34	CT	When a boat needs to pass under a low bridge on a river, that bridge needs to move out of the way. A drawbridge lifts up so a boat can pass under. A swing bridge pivots out of the way so a boat can pass by. But these decades-old bridges don't operate on their own. As Connecticut Public Radio's Patrick Skahill found out, they rely on a small group of "bridge tenders" specializing in a peculiar and slow-moving job.
Arts & Culture	8/31	6:45 a.m. 8:45 a.m.	4:54	MA	Our Back-To-School Book Series continues this morning with the story of nine-year-old Lucy Castor, who starts fourth grade at the beginning of the book. I asked author Natasha Lowe -- who grew up in London, and lives with her family in Deerfield, Massachusetts -- to read from the first chapter of "Lucy Castor Finds Her Sparkle."

Arts & Culture	9/7	6:34 a.m. 8:34 a.m.	5:03	MA	Sharks are the main characters in this week's pick for our Back To School book series. Many kids are fascinated by sharks, but most shark books are pitched to younger readers. So Karen Romano Young decided to write a comprehensive book on sharks for middle-schoolers. It's called "Shark Quest: Protecting The Ocean's Top Predators." Young is a deep-sea diver, children's book writer and comic artist from Bethel, Connecticut. She spoke with New England Public Radio's Tema Silk.
Arts & Culture	9/14	6:45 a.m. 8:45 a.m.	5:09	MA	Writing novels about the Holocaust for young readers has only been done by a few. Hatfield, Massachusetts, author Jane Yolen has written three on the topic of Jewish teenagers experiencing world-war-two. Yolen's new book is called "Mapping The Bones." She told New England Public Radio's Jill Kaufman that "Hansel and Gretel" frames the story of Chaim and Gittel, twins who live in Poland.
Arts & Culture	9/20	6:21 a.m. 8:21 a.m.	3:56	MA	A self-taught astronomer in Great Barrington, Massachusetts, has been taking his telescope out at night to teach anyone who wants to learn about the universe. New England Public Radio's Lily Abrahams checked it out.
Arts & Culture	9/21	6:33 a.m. 8:33 a.m.	4:58	CT	College towns have a unique feel. The coming and going of students. Home team pride. Student parties. Property tax disputes. The undercurrents of mutual resentment. In Amherst, UMass is described as a city unto itself. And some people -- from the town and the gown -- are proposing art as a way to knock down some walls.



Commentary	7/12	4:50 p.m.	2:20	MA	Commentator Susan Johnson has always loved going outside. But before she had cats, she had no experience bringing the outside...in. Except for houseplants -- and those didn't work out so well.
Commentary	7/27	5:51 a.m. 7:51 a.m.	2:15	MA	Temperatures have been pretty mild the past couple weeks. That's a relief to commentator Martha Ackmann. She's never liked hazy, hot, and humid weather—not even as a kid, when she spent most of her summers eating banana popsicles...or bobbing in the town pool.
Commentary	8/2	6:33 a.m. 8:22 a.m.	2:06	MA	Recently, a lawsuit alleging Harvard discriminates against Asian American applicants...forced the college to release hundreds of documents -- including the results of an internal review. As an Asian-American Yale graduate, commentator Andrew Lam considers whether discrimination against Asians is okay. And if so, how much?
Commentary	8/23	5:50 a.m. 7:50 a.m.	3:00	CT	After a few starts and stops, the city of Hartford recently picked a developer for the area around its new minor league baseball stadium. Commentator Lisa Chase likes what she sees in Connecticut's capital city. Chase studies urban design and development...and she often talks about how Hartford is being successfully redesigned and re-imagined. But she's often met with disbelief.
Commentary	8/31	7:40 a.m.	2:33	MA	This back-to-school week marks the end of summer for many. Not everyone can report that after a get-away, they managed to fulfill their fondest desire while there. But commentator Robert Chipkin claims he did just that.

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Commentary	9/4	7:50 a.m.	2:42	MA	15-year-old commentator Juliet Corwin is profoundly deaf. Cochlear implants give her access to sound and spoken language, but when her devices are off, she can't hear anything. Still...there are people who deny her deafness.
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Commentary	9/20	6:21 a.m. 8:21 a.m.	2:35	MA	Keep your eyes on the sky a little longer. This year's Asian Moon Festival occurs next Monday. Commentator and children's book author Grace Lin loves the festival for its simplicity. Still, for her, celebrating it...is not without complications.

Commentary	9/28	5:45 a.m. 7:45 a.m.	4:03	MA	The New England Patriots are struggling as they enter Sunday's game in Foxboro against the undefeated Miami Dolphins. The Pats have suffered double-digit losses in two of their first three games. The offense has lacked punch without standout wide receiver Julian Edelman, who's serving a suspension. And to add to that, we found out this week that running back Rex Burkhead and linebacker Ju'Whan Bentley are done for the season with injuries. I asked Matt Vautour, a sports writer and columnist with Mass Live, if Patriots fans should be pressing the panic button.
Economic Development	7/5	5:50 p.m.	6:41	MA	Construction season is in full swing. In Massachusetts that means more work on two of the largest projects in the state's history----the Wynn Casino in Everett and the MGM Casino in Springfield. Those projects are fueling an effort to build a more diverse work force in the construction industry. That includes drawing more women into the historically male-dominated building trades. Saskia DeMelker has more.
Economic Development	7/6	6:33 a.m. 8:33 a.m.	2:00	MA	The state's Cannabis Control Commission has released the names of 11 companies that've applied to run marijuana businesses in western Massachusetts. New England Public Radio's Nancy Cohen reports they promise to bring tax revenue -- and more -- to the communities that host them.

Economic Development	7/6	7:51 a.m.	6:41	MA	Construction season is in full swing. In Massachusetts that means more work on two of the largest projects in the state's history----the Wynn Casino in Everett and the MGM Casino in Springfield. Those projects are fueling an effort to build a more diverse work force in the construction industry. That includes drawing more women into the historically male-dominated building trades. Saskia DeMelker has more.
Economic Development	7/18	4:44 p.m.	3:59	NE	[A Japanese company is developing a novel way to connect college students to corporate recruiters -- offer free coffee at its cafes in exchange for giving up some personal information. Shiru Cafe has opened 20 stores in Japan and India since 2013. It opened its first U-S cafe this spring near Brown University in Providence. Reporter Graham Ambrose wrote about this for the Boston Globe. He tells me the company plans to open similar cafes in Amherst and New Haven.]
Economic Development	8/7	6:22 a.m. 8:22 a.m.	6:10	MA	Dairy farmers often grow feed, like hay or corn, for their own cows, along with extra to sell. In recent years, milk prices have dropped and dairy farms, including some in Western Mass., have sold off their cows. As New England Public Radio's Nancy Cohen reports, some say their hay customers are disappearing along with the animals.

Economic Development	8/8	6:22 a.m. 8:22 a.m.	6:25	MA	A woman has been hired as top editor at the Daily Hampshire Gazette, for the first time in the paper's more than 230-year history. Debra Scherban held the position on an interim basis the past six months. Now Brooke Hauser has been hired in the permanent role. She takes over at a time of financial uncertainty for the Northampton, Mass.-based paper.
Economic Development	8/13	5:45 a.m. 7:45 a.m.	4:43	NE	Dairy farmers in the Northeast say they're ready to talk about something that's been almost off-limits for decades: how to manage the milk supply to stop overproduction. Farmers are struggling, and a 4th year of low milk prices has driven many out of business. In response to the crisis, several hundred farmers will gather today for a day-long meeting in Albany, New York. As Vermont Public Radio's John Dillon reports, they plan to talk about the controversial practice of supply management.
Economic Development	8/15	6:45 a.m. 8:45 a.m.	5:21	MA	MGM Springfield opens its resort casino in just over a week. One nearby casino -- about 100 miles away in Schenectady, New York -- has been open for about a year and half. For a check-in on how the Rivers Casino at Mohawk Harbor is doing, I spoke with Daily Gazette business editor John Cropley. I asked him how the casino -- on paper -- was doing.

Economic Development	8/21	4:50 p.m.	5:29	MA	The MGM casino opens this week in Springfield with unemployment rates consistently higher than in much of the state. Jobs were a big factor in why Springfield officials---and many residents---wanted to land the casino. MGM promised to create 2000 construction jobs and hire at least 3000 people to work at the casino once it opened.
Economic Development	8/23	6:45 a.m. 8:45 a.m.	4:32	MA	Worcester's proposed new stadium for the Red Sox's top farm team would be the most expensive minor-league ballpark ever built. And most of the hundred-million-dollar bill would be financed by the city. Still, Worcester city manager Ed Augustus says he's confident a new stadium will pay dividends, partly because similar projects have worked out well elsewhere. But as WBUR's Callum Borchers reports --- looks can be deceiving.
Economic Development	8/24	4:50 p.m.	4:19	MA	A carefully engineered celebration of risking one's money to try and beat the odds took place in Springfield, Massachusetts today as the new MGM casino opened its doors. New England Public Radio's Alden Bourne begins our coverage.
Economic Development	9/6	5:45 a.m. 7:45 a.m.	5:18	VT	In the 1800's, Lake Champlain was a crowded passage for boats hauling lumber and other goods between New York City and Montreal. Much of that industry is long gone, but there's still some work on the lake for those who want it. Vermont Public Radio's Henry Epp takes us out on the water.

Economic Development	9/21	6:33 a.m. 8:33 a.m.	2:17	MA	The final list of Chinese products subject to President Trump's tariffs is long---more than 5000 items long. That means a wide range of Massachusetts businesses that use those products could be affected, from science labs to cranberry farms. WBUR's Callum Borchers reports.
Education	8/16	6:45 a.m. 8:45 a.m.	4:24	MA	Most colleges are shifting from need-based aid to what they call merit-based aid. That trend could prove daunting for low-income students. But it also provides opportunities middle-class parents may not be aware of. WBUR's Fred Thys reports.
Education	8/21	4:50 p.m.	1:53	CT	Researchers at UConn are teaming up with local history groups to create a state "Blue Trail." The idea is to build an interactive outdoor museum on Connecticut's coast that you can access through your phone. Connecticut Radio's Patrick Skahill reports.
Education	9/19	5:44 p.m.	4:00	MA	Tri-County School in Easthampton, Massachusetts, is closed this school year after 30 years in business. The reasons became clear last month when the special education school was hit with abuse allegations. Dan Glaun, a reporter with Masslive, spoke with current and former students, staff and officials at Tri-County schools and writes about the program in a piece published this week. He describes a school also plagued by uncertified teachers and understaffed support personnel who endured pay-cuts while top administrators received salary increases.

Energy & Environment	7/10	5:51 a.m. 7:51 a.m.	6:21	NE	A very old system is still in use at about 800 wastewater treatment plants in the U-S, including along the Connecticut River. It's called Combined Sewer Overflow." What overflows is a mix of storm water, street runoff, and raw sewage. And every wastewater treatment plant by law has a long-term plan to over the next few decades end their use. But every city and town is different, and just how different is playing out on a short stretch of the Connecticut River between Springfield and Hartford. New England Public Radio's Jill Kaufman reports.
Energy & Environment	7/11	5:51 a.m. 7:51 a.m.	4:10	VT	Remember acid rain? In the 1970s and 80s, scientists found that rain 100 times more acidic than normal was harming the mountain forests of New England and New York. The pollution was linked to fossil fuel plants in the Midwest. Now, a new study shows red spruce trees are recovering. As Vermont Public Radio's John Dillon reports, researchers say this success shows the value of science in shaping public policy.
Energy & Environment	9/12	6:45 a.m. 8:45 a.m.	2:52	MA	The U-S Environmental Protection Agency and General Electric are funding a new approach to negotiating an agreement on the cleanup of the Housatonic River. Just last week many of the stakeholders met with an independent mediator. But as New England Public Radio's Nancy Cohen reports, one key player is choosing not to participate.



Justice, Law & Public Safety	7/5	6:45 a.m. 8:45 a.m.	4:34	MA	Since April, a 36-year-old woman has been living in the Unitarian church in Northampton, Massachusetts, while under threat of deportation. Irida Kakhtiranova hopes to win an asylum case that will allow her to remain in the U.S. with her American husband and children. One way she's tried to quell her anxiety is by cooking -- and selling -- a specialty dish from her native Russia. New England Public Radio's Karen Brown has this report.
Justice, Law & Public Safety	7/20	7:45 a.m.	3:07	MA	Massachusetts residents who are looking to get a handicapped parking placard sometimes face a long wait. There is a quicker way, but it involves a lengthy drive from Western Mass. And despite pressure from state lawmakers, little has changed over the past few years. New England Public Radio's Adam Frenier reports.
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Justice, Law & Public Safety	7/27	4:44 p.m.	1:28	MA	Last spring, investigators found 3 bodies inside the home of a Springfield man who had just been charged with apparently unrelated crimes. Law enforcement officials in Hampden County now say there's not much they could have done differently last year when a woman reported a rape that was later linked to the same defendant. New England Public Radio's Sean Teehan reports.

Justice, Law & Public Safety	8/22	5:53 p.m.	5:37	MA	Looking at policing issues as the MGM casino prepares to open.
Justice, Law & Public Safety	9/6	5:45 a.m. 7:45 a.m.	3:07	MA	The state's highest court today takes up another case that highlights the intersection of the criminal justice and public health systems. It asks whether a judge can send someone to jail for addiction treatment. WBUR's Deborah Becker reports:
Justice, Law & Public Safety	9/7	6:34 a.m. 8:34 a.m.	3:01	CT	Hartford police have demoted a sergeant who was caught on video saying he was "trigger-happy" during a police stop in August. Stephen Barone was supervisor of the department's Community Response Unit. Now he's been reassigned to desk duty and faces a disciplinary hearing that could cost him his job. As Connecticut Public Radio's Vanessa de la Torre reports, police also released more extensive video of the incident that only heightens the controversy.
Justice, Law & Public Safety	9/11	6:45 a.m. 8:45 a.m.	4:45	CT	An investigation has found that seven former faculty members at The Hotchkiss School in Lakeville, Connecticut, sexually abused students over a 23-year period. The school hired a law firm to conduct the investigation and write a report, which it released last month. Now, one of the victims is speaking out. Connecticut Public Radio's Frankie Graziano brings us this report, and we should note his story contains descriptions of sexual abuse that may be disturbing to some listeners.

Justice, Law & Public Safety	9/13	6:21 a.m. 8:21 a.m.	6:14	MA	In Massachusetts, two thirds of offenders who are incarcerated have been in prison or jail before. In an effort to bring that rate down, lawmakers allocated more funding for "community residential reentry programs" in the new budget. These are commonly known as halfway houses. New England Public Radio's Saskia de Melker takes a closer look at one such program in central Massachusetts.
Justice, Law & Public Safety	9/17	5:44 p.m.	4:02	MA	At UMass Amherst Friday, a black employee walking to his office had campus police called on him. The incident is similar to one that took place over the summer at Smith College involving a student -- who was also black -- on her lunch break. Reporter Dusty Christensen has covered both these stories for the Daily Hampshire Gazette. He says the UMass incident involved an employee who's worked at the school for 14 years.
Politics & Public Policy	7/2	5:51 a.m. 7:51 a.m.	7:01	MA	A day that many people have long pushed for in Massachusetts finally arrived. If you're over 21 it's legal, now, to buy marijuana in a store licensed by the state. But as New England Public Radio's Nancy Cohen reports, the illegal market isn't expected to go away anytime soon.
Politics & Public Policy	7/2	6:45 a.m. 8:45 a.m.	5:20	MA	<b>THE WEEK AHEAD:</b> Grand Bargain electoral impact // Mass. leaders ponder response to Supreme Court labor decision // Baker's son in trouble and state police tie-in

Politics & Public Policy	7/3	4:44 p.m.	3:13	MA	A new survey of Massachusetts residents found more than a fifth of adults say they'd used marijuana in the past 30 days. The study was commissioned by the Massachusetts legislature...to help gauge the eventual impact of marijuana legalization in the state. I had a chance to speak with Jennifer Whitehill, a UMass Amherst professor who helped author the study. I asked her what the research can tell us about how marijuana is perceived in Massachusetts.
Politics & Public Policy	7/3	5:51 a.m. 7:51 a.m.	8:33	MA	No stores in Massachusetts yet are able to sell marijuana for recreational use, but the first could open within a few weeks. Voters decided to legalize the drug more than a year and a half ago. But the Cannabis Control Commission said it's taking the time to avoid the potholes that made things bumpy for pot sales in Colorado and in Washington. To learn more about how things are going in those states several years after they legalized the drug, we turn now to Ben Markus at Colorado Public Radio and, in Washington at public radio station KNKX, Gabriel Spitzer.
Politics & Public Policy	7/6	5:50 p.m.	9:02	MA	<b>THE SHORT LIST:</b> [Mass. tardy with state budget // Mass. Lawmakers look to undo old law banning abortion // What happens to black-market weed after legalization // Red Sox v. Yankees]
Politics & Public Policy	7/9	6:45 a.m. 8:45 a.m.	5:20	MA	<b>THE WEEK AHEAD:</b> State budget delays // other pending legislation to be negotiated // Rosenberg/Hefner lawsuit and possible chilling effect on misconduct claims]

Politics & Public Policy	7/11	5:51 a.m. 7:51 a.m.	2:09	MA	If you want a gun, you can't use marijuana. That's the message from the federal government as more states like Massachusetts legalize cannabis. New England Public Radio's Alden Bourne reports.
Politics & Public Policy	7/13	5:50 p.m.	8:29	MA	<b>THE SHORT LIST:</b> [MGM hitting construction diversity goals, Berkshire Museum releases financial documents, law enforcement looking for ways to test for marijuana d-u-i's.
Politics & Public Policy	7/16	6:45 a.m. 8:45 a.m.	5:19	MA	<b>[THE WEEK AHEAD:</b> Still no state budget // complications from Senate leadership shakeup // lawmakers withholding amendments // what happens when the formal sessions end]
Politics & Public Policy	7/18	6:45 a.m. 8:45 a.m.	4:23	MA	There's a last-minute push on Beacon Hill to allow local communities in Massachusetts to vote on new regional taxes to pay for their own transportation projects, an option available in most other states. The legislation is before the Senate Committee on Ways and Means, with no vote scheduled and just days to go before the end of formal sessions. Legislation has also not moved in the House. Kevin Thompson is Director of Transportation for America. He says most states allow local ballot measures to secure funding for transportation projects. But Massachusetts is not one of them.

Politics & Public Policy	7/19	6:45 a.m. 8:45 a.m.	4:12	MA	Summer's in full swing and farmers markets are abundant with fresh, local produce. But the technology that enables people to use food stamps at farmers markets faces a major snag later this month. The problem apparently hinges on the actions of a federal technology vendor. For details, New England Public Radio's Carrie Healy spoke with Winton Pitcoff, who leads the Mass Food System Collaborative.
Politics & Public Policy	7/19	5:44 p.m.	2:49	MA	A new Massachusetts state budget is on Governor Charlie Baker's desk, some 18 days after the new fiscal year began. Lawmakers quickly approved a compromise 42-billion dollar spending plan yesterday. But as WBUR's Shannon Dooling reports, there is a glaring omission in the compromise -- language that could have changed how cities and towns enforce immigration laws.
Politics & Public Policy	7/23	6:45 a.m. 8:45 a.m.	5:27	MA	<b>THE WEEK AHEAD:</b> The Massachusetts state budget is sitting on Governor Charlie Baker's desk. Now the big question -- how's he gonna use his veto pen?
Politics & Public Policy	7/27	5:50 p.m.	9:02	MA	<b>THE SHORT LIST:</b> Immigration left out of Mass. budget; Neal/Amatul-Wadud Congressional race; Conn. highway tolls
Politics & Public Policy	7/30	6:45 a.m. 8:45 a.m.	5:46	MA	<b>THE WEEK AHEAD:</b> New Senate Leadership off to rocky start? // veto overrides by lawmakers// big measures left to deal with before tuesday midnight// keywords: massHealth, welfare issues--cap on kids, mass state police, airbnb

Politics & Public Policy	8/3	5:50 p.m.	8:58	MA	<b>THE SHORT LIST:</b> Last-minute lawmaking // Smith College student says race played role in police call // Congressional candidate Amatul-Wadud targeted by Islamophobic flyers
Politics & Public Policy	8/6	6:45 a.m. 8:45 a.m.	5:33	MA	<b>THE WEEK AHEAD:</b> What lawmakers accomplished and failed to accomplish // More issues to consider // More ed funding from Baker // Loss of marijuana revenue
Politics & Public Policy	8/9	5:44 p.m.	3:59	VT	Tuesday is primary election day in Connecticut and Vermont. In Vermont, voters have big decisions ahead for Governor and the U-S House. For more on these contests, I talked with Vermont Public Radio's Peter Hirschfeld. I asked him how Republican Governor Phil Scott has been dealing with two G-O-P challengers.
Politics & Public Policy	8/10	5:50 p.m.	8:27	MA	<b>THE SHORT LIST:</b> The Advocate and alt-media // Connecticut primaries // Vermont primaries // scheduling of these elections in summer

Politics & Public Policy	8/13	6:45 a.m. 8:45 a.m.	5:02	MA	<b>THE WEEK AHEAD:</b> The Massachusetts primary elections are just three weeks away. Is Governor Charlie Baker now ready to start campaigning? So the governor has finished up his legislative business -- decided what bills to sign, veto or change. Not that he was looking for their suggestions, but you reported Massachusetts Democrats have a suggestion for what Baker should do now. // And the governor is well flush with campaign cash, plus is getting a big infusion from national Republicans. That brought complaints from Baker's opponent in the primary. // And for voters interested in casting a ballot on September 4th...they've got a deadline this week.]
Politics/ Public Policy	8/13	4:44 p.m.	3:55	CT	In Connecticut and Vermont, tomorrow is primary election day. In Connecticut, voters will take the first step in replacing outgoing governor Dannel Malloy. On the republican side, Danbury mayor Mark Boughton is the party's endorsed candidate in a field of five. I asked Hartford Courant political reporter Chris Keating about the g-o-p's crowded ballot.
Politics/ Public Policy	8/14	6:45 a.m. 8:45 a.m.	3:35	NE	New England governors and the premiers of eastern Canadian provinces say the ties that bind the region transcend the trade war between Washington and Ottawa. At their annual meeting in Stowe Vermont, the leaders called for a truce in the trade war.
Politics/ Public Policy	8/17	5:50 p.m.	8:50	MA	<b>THE SHORT LIST:</b> CT and VT election analysis; MGM Springfield security and sign debacle



Politics/ Public Policy	8/20	6:45 a.m. 8:45 a.m.	6:29	MA	<p><b>THE WEEK AHEAD:</b> It's crunch time for candidates...many of whom are just hoping voters know they exist. We chatted last week about Governor Charlie Baker's shift to campaign mode, and the many millions he's raised. Let's focus now on the Democrats -- Bob Massie and Jay Gonzalez. How are they differentiating themselves ahead of the September 4th primary? // Let's turn to another race on the Democratic ballot - for secretary of state. Bill Galvin has had that office since 1995. And he's got a real challenge this year, from Josh Zakim, a Boston city councilor who won the party's endorsement. They're really going after each other. What are the big issues? // Finally, Matt -- it's a big week for western Mass. On Friday, MGM opens up its nearly billion dollar casino in Springfield. we are going to have a bunch of stories this week on issues related to the casino -- promised jobs, entertainment plans, and of course compulsive gambling treatment. But I want to talk to you about what the state has at stake here. A slots parlor opened a few years ago in Plainville, but this is the first so-called "resort casino" in Massachusetts.]</p>
Politics/ Public Policy	8/24	4:50 p.m.	2:07	VT	<p>Last week in Vermont's Democratic Primary, Christine Hallquist became the first openly transgender person ever to win a major party gubernatorial nomination. As Vermont Public Radio's Peter Hirschfeld reports, her historic political victory has made her the target of violent threats.</p>

Politics/ Public Policy	8/24	5:50 p.m.	8:14	MA	<b>THE SHORT LIST</b> : Casino: reaction, jobs goals, market-rate housing, addiction // Worcester gets Red Sox minor-league team
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Politics/ Public Policy	8/27	6:45 a.m. 8:45 a.m.	6:57	MA	<p><b>THE WEEK AHEAD:</b> In this last week before the September 4th primary let's spend a moment digging into the U.S Senate primary and the GOP candidates who are taking on democratic Senator Elizabeth Warren. State representative Geoff Diehl], former Romney administration official Beth Lindstrom and businessman John Kingston are each trying to distinguish themselves for voters as the candidate who stands the best chance of defeating Warren. There's also the complicated question in how much to align themselves with President Trump. On voters' minds will be Russia, Michael Cohen, immigration policies... You've been reporting on the candidates -- as we head to election day, what does this race look like? // Okay -- there are also several races in Mass. for seats in congress -- In western Mass, Congressman Richie Neal faces a challenge from Tahirah Amatul Wadud. She's a lawyer. And over in Massachusetts' 3d congressional district -- the race to fill Niki Tsongas' seat. The district touches some towns in of central mass. The race is really crowded with democrats. A new poll says Dan Koh -- a city of Boston mover and shaker [walsh aide] may have a narrow lead...but there are loads of undecided voters. What's going on here? // Now -- something not election related but certainly political... last week, the Mass. cannabis commission approved two testing labs. Without them, recreational marijuana stores couldn't open. SO does this mean they can finally open?]</p>
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Politics/ Public Policy	8/28	6:22 a.m. 8:22 a.m.	6:43	MA	In Massachusetts' 1st Congressional District, a 15-term incumbent who hasn't faced a serious challenger in years is up against a black, female, Muslim lawyer with only a fraction of his campaign money. She's claiming to be the more progressive while he's touting his seniority. New England Public Radio's Karen Brown reports.
Politics/ Public Policy	8/29	6:22 a.m. 8:22 a.m.	2:50	MA	There's a rare open seat for the First Hampshire District in the Massachusetts House. State Representative Peter Kocot of Northampton died in February, and his longtime district director Diana Szydal is looking to take over for her old boss. In the Democratic Primary, she's opposed by Lindsay Sabadosa who says she wants to bring a progressive agenda with her to Beacon Hill. New England Public Radio's Adam Frenier takes a closer look at this race.
Politics/ Public Policy	8/29	6:22 a.m. 8:22 a.m.	4:32	MA	It's the office that among other things, oversees elections, corporate filings, and securities. Not terribly exciting, but crucial nonetheless to the function of the state of Massachusetts. This year, for the first time in over a decade, Democrats have a choice when it comes to the office of Secretary of the Commonwealth. More now from WBUR's Steve Brown.

Politics/ Public Policy	8/30	6:34 a.m. 8:34 a.m.	5:13	MA	Three Democratic write-in candidates are running for the seat that until recently was held by former Mass Senate President Stan Rosenberg. These candidates say one of their biggest challenges has been teaching voters how to cast a ballot for them. And local elections officials say they're gearing up for what could be a long -- and potentially complicated -- Election Day. Adam Frenier reports.
Politics/ Public Policy	8/30	6:34 a.m. 8:34 a.m.	2:51	MA	Three candidates are running in western Massachusetts in the Democratic primary for the second Hampshire state House seat -- which includes Hadley, South Hadley, Easthampton and part of Granby. They're looking to succeed Representative John Scibak...who's retiring after 15 years in the legislature. New England Public Radio's Alden Bourne reports.
Politics/ Public Policy	8/31	7:34 a.m.	2:29	MA	Two candidates are running in the Democratic primary for the Third Hampshire seat in the Massachusetts House, which includes Amherst, Pelham, and parts of Granby. Mindy Domb and Erik Nakajima are vying to replace Representative Solomon Goldstein-Rose, who announced earlier this month he would not run for re-election after serving just one term. New England Public Radio's Saskia de Melker reports.
Politics/ Public Policy	8/31	7:37 a.m.	2:28	MA	In the Democratic primary for the Hampden District state senate seat, longtime incumbent James Welch is facing off against former Springfield City Councilor, and US Senate staffer Amaad Rivera. New England Public Radio's Sean Teehan reports.

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Politics/ Public Policy	8/31	5:50 p.m.	9:36	MA	<b>THE SHORT LIST:</b> Casino housing commitments and general reaction // Dem race for Mass. Gvoernor // election write-ins have it tough
Politics/ Public Policy	9/3	6:21 a.m. 8:21 a.m.	4:02	MA	Rural western Mass versus Beacon Hill. That's the theme in the crowded Democratic primary to replace state representative Steve Kulik. The district includes 10 communities in Franklin County, as well as some hilltowns to the south, as New England Public Radio's Sam Hudzik reports.

Politics/ Public Policy	9/3	6:21 a.m. 8:21 a.m.	2:33	MA	The lone primary race in western Massachusetts for District Attorney is taking place in Berkshire County. Three Democrats are vying to replace David Capeless, who abruptly retired in March. A longtime Capeless assistant who was appointed to the job this year, is running against two others who say the county needs something other than the status quo. New England Public Radio's Adam Frenier reports.
Politics/ Public Policy	9/5	5:45 a.m. 7:45 a.m.	4:28	MA	In the race for Congress in the westernmost district of Massachusetts, incumbent Richie Neal bested challenger Tahirah Amatul-Wadud in the Democratic primary. New England Public Radio's Sean Teehan begins our coverage with the Neal campaign.
Politics/ Public Policy	9/5	6:45 a.m. 8:45 a.m.	2:10	MA	Baker versus Gonzalez---that's the matchup this November as Massachusetts Governor Charlie Baker easily beat back a challenge from Springfield pastor Scott Lively. Jay Gonzalez topped environmentalist Bob Massie for the Democratic nomination. WBUR's Steve Brown reports.
Politics/ Public Policy	9/5	6:45 a.m. 8:45 a.m.	2:28	MA	Jo Comerford, a write-in candidate, has won the Democratic primary for the state senate district covering the Upper Pioneer Valley. New England Public Radio's Nancy Cohen reports there's been nothing typical about this race.
Politics/ Public Policy	9/7	5:50 p.m.	9:36	MA	<b>THE SHORT LIST:</b> Primary election reax: Neal/Wadud, Gonzalez/Massie, state legislature, Berkshire D-A

Politics/ Public Policy	9/10	6:45 a.m. 8:45 a.m.	5:27	MA	<b>THE WEEK AHEAD:</b> Primary races---eastern Mass. Upset // 4 open House seats, 1 Senate seat in western Mass., who will fill? // Cummington was the only town in the state to vote for both losers in the governor's primary, Bob Massie and Scott Lively
Politics/ Public Policy	9/14	5:50 p.m.	9:35	MA	<b>THE SHORT LIST:</b> Natural gas explosions and Mass. Energy policy // Mass. will sit out mediation over Housatonic cleanup // FEMA to end housing for PR evacuees // Dem Mayor Sarno endorses GOP governors
Politics/ Public Policy	9/17	6:45 a.m. 8:45 a.m.	5:27	MA	<b>THE WEEK AHEAD:</b> Natural gas explosions and fires shook communities north of Boston// Could gas explosions become a political issue?//Still no retail marijuana businesses open although the industry got a boost from a credit union in Gardner
Politics/ Public Policy	9/21	5:50 p.m.	9:00	MA	<b>THE SHORT LIST:</b> Berkshire DA write-in campaign // Racial profiling at Umass Amherst // Amateur voter fraud in NH and Belchertown
Politics/ Public Policy	9/24	6:45 a.m. 8:45 a.m.	7:05	MA	<b>THE WEEK AHEAD:</b> State troopers indicted in OT investigation // Dem gov candidate wants to tax private college endowments // Do John Kerry, Elizabeth Warren, and Deval Patrick have 2020 presidential ambitions?



Politics/ Public Policy	9/25	7:51 a.m.	2:08	CT	The two major party candidates running for governor in Connecticut say they welcome having an independent candidate join them on stage in their next televised gubernatorial debate tomorrow. WSHU's Ebong Udoma reports.
Politics & Public Policy	9/25	7:51 a.m.	2:14	VT	The Senate Judiciary Committee later this week is scheduled to hear from Supreme Court nominee Brett Kavanaugh and his accuser, Christine Blasey Ford, over sexual assault allegations. There are two senators from New England on the panel - Richard Blumenthal of Connecticut and Vermont's Patrick Leahy, both Democrats. Leahy was also one of two senators from the region on the committee in 1991, when a similar set of hearings took place around the nomination of Justice Clarence Thomas. New England Public Radio's Adam Frenier looks back.
Politics & Public Policy	9/26	5:45 a.m. 7:45 a.m.	3:55	MA	Massachusetts voters are evenly split over a ballot question about nurse-to-patient ratios. That's according to a new WBUR poll...showing big leads for the "yes" camps on two other ballot questions. Voters overwhelmingly support keeping legal protections for transgender people, such as the right to use public restrooms that match gender identities. Voters also want to try to reverse the Citizen's United Supreme Court decision through a constitutional amendment. WBUR's Callum Borchers reports.

Public Health	7/31	6:45 a.m. 8:45 a.m.	4:39	CT	Black women in Connecticut are 12 times more likely than white women to be living with HIV. That's just one example of the racial disparities behind the current HIV epidemic. Public health workers are pushing a medication called PrEP to prevent new HIV infections. But as Connecticut Public Radio's Vanessa de la Torre reports, getting the word out on PrEP ...is taking a lot of leg work.
Public Health	8/9	5:51 a.m. 7:51 a.m.	8:24	MA	NEPR's Karen Brown previews a new podcast series, "The Great God Of Depression."
Public Health	8/23	5:50 a.m. 7:50 a.m.	5:49	MA	When a new casino comes to town, research has shown there's often a spike in the number of people who develop a gambling addiction. Massachusetts legislators took that into account when they wrote the 2011 law permitting casinos in the state. That means, with MGM about to open in Springfield, regulators and casino operators are required to make sure problem gamblers have access to help. New England Public Radio's Karen Brown looks at a new program they hope will fulfill that promise.
Public Health	8/24	5:51 a.m. 7:51 a.m.	6:16	MA	Yesterday we reported on a program, soon to launch at the MGM casino in Springfield, meant to prevent compulsive gambling. But where can people go when that program doesn't work? Today New England Public Radio's Karen Brown looks at the current treatment options in the Springfield area for problem gamblers.

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Science	7/27	4:44 p.m.	1:00	NE	The planet Mars will swing really close to Earth this weekend. As Connecticut Public Radio's Patrick Skahill reports, Mars' bright red-orange light will outshine Jupiter in the night sky... thanks to a phenomenon called "opposition."
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Science	9/12	6:45 a.m. 8:45 a.m.	1:51	CT	Now, some news from the very small world of quantum computing. Scientists at Yale University have figured out how to teleport information at the tiniest scales of nature. WSHU's Davis Dunavin reports that could one day power some of the world's most impressive computers.
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