

Sumner Trust

6 Jan 2017

WAIC, Springfield, Massachusetts

Issues/Programs List

October 1, 2016 through December 31, 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***, 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*, *On Point*, *The Takeaway* and others.

Issues

Arts & Culture
Commentary
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	10/3	7:45 a.m.	3:16	MA	The regular season career of Red Sox slugger David Ortiz has come to an end. The 40 year old star is retiring at the end of this season. In the regular season finale at Fenway yesterday, the play off bound Red Sox fell to the Toronto Blue Jays 2-1. WBUR's Martin Kessler reports that, despite the loss, it was a big party for Big Papi.
Arts & Culture	10/5	5:44 p.m.	4:03	MA	Non-Hispanic white veterans returning from military service are more likely to move into diverse communities than their civilian counterparts. That- says UMass Amherst sociology professor Jennifer Lundquist - is one finding in a new report that looks at positive outcomes from enlistment.
Arts & Culture	10/6	5:44 p.m.	3:47	MA	The post-season begins tonight for the Red Sox as they take on the Indians in Cleveland. Boston Globe sports reporter Alex Speier tells how he expects the sox to do this October.
Arts & Culture	10/14	6:33 a.m. 8:33 a.m.	7:23	MA	You'll find some great hikes all around the Berkshires - according to Lauren Stevens, the author of "50 Hikes in the Berkshire Hills," which came out earlier this year. With maps and photos and narrative descriptions, it's a practical guide to what Stevens considers some of the best day hikes in the region.

Arts & Culture	10/20	5:44 p.m.	3:10	MA	Amherst College Senior David Lander has received a lot of attention this week - and not for his academics or his performance on the school's soccer team. Lander wrote a column for Huffington Post after Donald Trump said his decade old comments describing sexual assault were just "locker room talk." Lander says he worried the tone of the column, "Not in Our Locker Room," would sound preachy. And he's not saying that his team's locker room talk is Rated-G.
Arts & Culture	10/24	7:45 a.m.	5:00	MA	A half century ago a Polish author wrote a novel about a Hungarian Diplomat who works in the embassy in India and falls in love with an Australian. It's called "Stone Tablets" by Wojceich Zukrowski and - as you can imagine - spans quite a few languages. That made the job of translating it into English all the more complicated for Amherst, Massachusetts, writer Stephanie Kraft.
Arts & Culture	10/28	6:33 a.m. 8:33 a.m.	3:55	MA	The Massachusetts Museum of Contemporary Art in North Adams is tackling a difficult topic. A new installation is designed to provoke thought and discussion about violence and race in America. Now that the exhibit - by artist Nick Cave - is open, other artists are creating works of their own in response. WBUR's Jeremy Goodwin visited Mass-MoCA when the other artists were there, and had the story.
Arts & Culture	10/29	8:35 a.m. 10:35 a.m.	4:12	MA	A Western Massachusetts press that published the work of one new female poet each year is celebrating twenty years. Perugia Press marks this milestone as its founder, director and editor, Susan Kan is stepping aside.

Arts & Culture	11/3	4:50 p.m. 6:20 p.m.	8:03	MA	A couple years ago, we launched a project to collect the stories and voices of people who moved to Western New England from around the world. It's called "Words in Transit." Those stories are included in a new book and a podcast that launches today. NEPR's Tema Silk and John Voci tell us how "Words in Transit" got started.
Arts & Culture	11/4	4:44 p.m.	3:24	MA	The Springfield Sting begins its first season Saturday. The minor league ABA team is the first pro basketball club in Springfield since the Armor - and NBA Development League team - left the city in early 2014. Zach Baru is the owner of the Sting. He tells us about why he thinks his team will succeed in a city where others have failed.
Arts & Culture	12/1	5:25 p.m.	4:03	MA	Playwright Milan Dragicevich's new work - called "Refugee" - follows three generations. It's part personal narrative that the UMass Amherst Professor knew nothing about until his mother later in life started revealing her past as a displaced person in the Sinai in WWII. During intermission at a dress rehearsal this week, Dragicevich told NEPR's Susan Kaplan that "Refugee" is the kind of story he likes to tell. One that jumps in time and space. That shows how related circumstance can be - even distant and unusual ones.
Arts & Culture	12/10	8:35 a.m. 10:35 a.m.	4:01	MA	In the Berkshires, a small group gathered for a class on chainsaws offered by the Trustees of Reservations - specifically for women.

Arts & Culture	12/15	6:45 a.m. 8:45 a.m.	3:57	MA	Marijuana is now legal in Massachusetts. As of today, state law permits people over 21 to carry up to an ounce of pot and to keep up to nine ounces locked up at home. It's still illegal to buy and sell marijuana... and retail shops are at least a year away. But legal recreational marijuana is likely to have an immediate impact on life in Massachusetts. WBUR's Steve Brown explains what it changed in Colorado - which legalized the drug in 2012.
Arts & Culture	12/15 12/16	5:44 p.m. 7:45 a.m.	4:07	MA	Wednesday night, about 350 people showed up at a mosque in West Springfield, Massachusetts. The crowd was a mix of the world's major religious groups. A similar "interfaith" conversation was held months ago, when anti-muslim rhetoric filtered through the presidential campaign. An increase in religious hate crimes has brought them together again.
Arts & Culture	12/20	7:51 a.m.	8:00	MA	Next year marks 25 years since the closing of the Belchertown State School. From the 1920s through 1992, the western Massachusetts campus housed people considered and labeled "feeble-minded." The school became infamous by the 1970s for its horrible conditions and abuse of its patients. One of those patients was Donald Vitkus. He was given up for adoption by his mother, when he was 27 days old. He bounced between foster homes, and then when he was six, he was sent to Belchertown.
Arts & Culture	12/22	5:44 p.m.	4:02	MA	In his new book - Stages of Memory – UMass Amherst Professor James Young discusses the challenges facing those tasked with picking the final design for the 9-11 memorial in New York City. Young - who was on the committee - says the aim was to build an enduring memorial.

Arts & Culture	12/26	6:45 a.m. 8:45 a.m.	5:17	MA	The book "Of Arms and Artists" blends the politics and art at the time of the American Revolution, and offers a deeper look at the artists themselves. Their art is instantly recognizable. We all carry around these images in our wallets - like the one of George Washington by artist Gilbert Stuart. Author Paul Staiti is a professor at Mount Holyoke College.
Economic Development	10/12	6:45 a.m. 8:45 a.m.	4:18	MA	Easthampton, Massachusetts, was a thriving mill town during the industrial revolution, but when manufacturing left the city, its industrial landscape remained. In recent years, Easthampton's old mill buildings have been turned into loft style apartments and art galleries... and now - an indoor park.
Economic Development	10/28	6:33 a.m. 8:33 a.m.	2:53	MA	The effort to bring broadband internet service to rural communities in Western Massachusetts is showing some progress... eight years after the original legislation was signed. Earlier this year, the Baker Administration re-launched the so-called "last mile" project. That followed months of infighting about how best to proceed.
Economic Development	11/4	7:51 a.m.	5:13	MA	A ballot question in Massachusetts would make it illegal to sell veal, pork, or eggs from animals that've been confined to crates or cages of a certain size. Other New England states have already adopted some farm-animal welfare regulations concerning pigs or calves. But not regarding chickens... and those eggs are big ticket items.
Economic Development	11/6	8:35 a.m.	4:06	MA	A new study finds significant social, demographic and regional disparity associated with youth employment in Western Massachusetts. Matt Melnik directs the UMass Donahue Institute - which released the study.

Economic Development	11/8	6:45 a.m. 8:45 a.m.	5:09	MA	MGM continues construction of its casino in downtown Springfield - slate to open in late 2018. The company has launched a series of sessions on how potential workers can get ready for the nearly 3,000 jobs that will be available there. But regulations governing who can work at the casino could potentially rule out many of those most in need of a job.
Economic Development	11/10	6:45 a.m. 8:45 a.m.	4:54	MA	On Tuesday, Massachusetts voters approved a ballot question to legalize the use of recreational marijuana. The measure charges the State Treasurer's office with creating the Cannabis Control Commission - to oversee the new industry. For more, I spoke to state treasurer Deb Goldberg, who opposed the ballot question but has a lot of work ahead to implement it. The measure makes some changes to law starting December 15th, so we asked Treasurer Goldberg what will change on that date.
Economic Development	11/16	6:22 a.m. 8:22 a.m.	3:48	MA	The food at UMass Amherst is somewhat legendary. The Princeton Review even named the school number one in the nation for best campus food for the first time this year. As Katherine Davis-Young reports, a group of students at the school is trying to make sure those high-quality meals get shared... not wasted.
Economic Development	11/23	6:45 a.m. 8:45 a.m.	3:40	MA	Operators at Berkshire County's ski areas are hopefully they will be able to open for the season in the coming days and weeks... if the weather cooperates, like it did this week. Last winter's mild temperatures and low snowfall caused mountains to lose money and hampered the region's tourism industry. As New England Public Radio's Adam Frenier reports, there are a lot of people keeping their fingers crossed for a more typical New England winter this season.

Economic Development	12/27	6:45 a.m. 8:45 a.m.	5:03	MA	New England is facing a demographic crisis - its people are getting too old to work. States are desperate for young workers who can fill jobs, attract businesses and pay taxes. As part of the New England News Collaborative series, "Facing Change," New Hampshire Public Radio's Emily Corwin reports on one controversial solution few people are talking about - immigration.
Economic Development	12/29	6:45 a.m. 8:45 a.m.	5:00	MA	In January, the first of more than 100 Syrian refugees will begin arriving in Rutland, Vermont - an aging, blue collar town of 16,000 people. The mayor has said the town needs an influx of new residents... but current residents are deeply divided over the plan. As part of the New England News Collaborative series, "Facing Change," Vermont Public Radio's Nina Keck reports.
Economic Development	12/30	6:22 a.m. 8:22 a.m.	6:25	MA	New England has roughly 400,000 immigrants living and working here without legal status. Federal policy enacted several years ago was supposed to end random deportations of people who aren't criminals. But a closer look finds that it's still occurring and there are cases where immigration authorities ignore these policies. As part of the New England News Collaborative series, "Facing Change," Vermont Public Radio's Kathleen Masterson reports.
Education	11/3	6:45 a.m. 8:45 a.m.	5:02	MA	In Massachusetts, voters are considering a ballot question to increase the number of charter schools in the state. The fight over the proposal has been contentious, with the battle lines clearly drawn between proponents of charters... and of traditional public schools. But there's an experiment under way in Springfield, which promises a third way in public education.

Education	12/12	4:40 p.m.	4:05	MA	After years of dropping enrollment, the labor center at UMass Amherst is getting help from the school's administration. Chancellor Kumble Subaswammy released a three-year plan that includes financial support from labor unions. Subaswammy says he laid out the explicit goals in order to address financial and enrollment issues, and, he says set the record straight. That's after public criticism from the labor center's former director. The chancellor says that he's optimistic and committed to the center... which he says differs from mainstream academic departments in a number of ways.
Education	12/22	7:51 a.m.	5:10	MA	Hampshire College in Amherst, Massachusetts has been at the center of a controversy that's attracted attention and criticism from around the country. Now it's college application season - a crucial time for the school's bottom line. Reporter Katherine Davis-Young visited Hampshire to find out whether all that publicity could have an impact
Energy /Environment	10/4	7:45 a.m.	4:02	CT	Walk a few hundred yards into the woods in Durham, Connecticut, and you'll see something that looks like it's out of Mad Max. Large trucks with big wheels and giant robotic arms that grab trees and slice them down. But as WNPR's Patrick Skahill reports - this controlled chaos is a calculated timber harvest - with the long term goal of creating a more resilient forest.
Energy /Environment	10/11	6:22 a.m. 8:22 a.m.	4:32	MA	As they do every fall, Massachusetts fish and wildlife workers are stocking dozens of rivers and ponds with Rainbow trout, raised in hatcheries, for anglers to catch. But this year, because of the drought, a few places won't get fish. Some anglers are choosing not to go after wild fish - to give them a break.

Energy /Environment	10/31	7:51 a.m. 5:50 p.m.	5:00	VT	A growing challenge for wildlife, much of New England's forest habitat is increasingly fractured. As we've built roads and housing developments, crossing between key forest areas can be a dangerous trip for a moose or a bear. To tackle this challenge, New England and Eastern Canadian states have banded together to preserve what they've identified as nine key pathways in the region. As VPR's Kathleen Masterson reports, the project involved studying just how animals cross the road.
Energy /Environment	12/2	6:45 a.m. 8:45 a.m.	4:44	MA	Rivers and streams in New England will inevitably flood, and there are some low cost steps that federal and state governments can take to help communities be better prepared. That's the message from a recent UMass Amherst report. Geography professor Eve Vogel is the study's lead author. She's presenting the findings later today in Shelburne Falls, Massachusetts - one of the hardest hit towns by tropical storm Irene five years ago. Vogel says the nature of New England rivers poses some challenges for local planning officials.
Energy /Environment	12/6	7:22 a.m.	7:51	MA	Today's batteries come in all sorts of shapes and sizes. The largest in New England... and once, the world... was built 45 years ago and still works. It's hidden deep inside a mountain in Western Massachusetts. WBUR's Bruce Gellerman takes us on a tour of this enormous - usually off-limits - battery.
Justice, Law & Public Safety	10/11	7:45 a.m.	3:05	CT	Last week, Hartford Police released a video of one of its officers kicking a handcuffed man in the head. And last night, about 40 people marched from city hall to the home of the mayor to protest the use of excessive force by police. Jeff Cohen, of the New England News Collaborative was there.

Justice, Law & Public Safety	10/21	4:44 p.m.	4:29	MA	The Hampden County Sheriff's Department is known for a compassionate approach to incarceration that extends to life after prison. An after-incarceration program helps ex-offenders get social security cards, health insurance and housing. And once a year... current and former participants in the program come together for a reunion. This week was its 20th anniversary.
Justice, Law & Public Safety	10/22	9:35 a.m.	4:29	MA	The Hampden County Sheriff's Department is known for a compassionate approach to incarceration that extends to life after prison. An after-incarceration program helps ex-offenders get social security cards, health insurance and housing. And once a year... current and former participants in the program come together for a reunion. This week was its 20th anniversary.
Justice, Law & Public Safety	11/11	6:45 a.m. 8:45 a.m.	4:52	MA	Big changes are ahead for Massachusetts, after voters legalized the recreational use of marijuana through a ballot question this week. State officials are now looking to create regulations for the sale and use of a drug - which is still illegal on the federal level. For more on what the legalization means for law enforcement, we asked Northwestern District Attorney David Sullivan if he wants to see legislators make changes to the law.
Justice, Law & Public Safety	11/16	7:45 a.m.	3:57	MA	The years-long legal battle over the state drug lab scandal is before Massachusetts highest court today. The justices will consider whether to dismiss the thousands of cases involving drug tests done by former chemist Annie Dookhan - who was convicted of falsifying tests. WBUR's Deborah Becker reports.

Justice, Law & Public Safety	11/17	6:45 a.m. 8:45 a.m.	4:01	MA	Republican President-elect Donald Trump made a lot of big promises on the campaign trail. Speaking last month in Gettysburg, Pennsylvania, Trump listed actions he plans to take on his first day in office.
Justice, Law & Public Safety	11/17	4:44 p.m.	3:41	MA	As of December 15th... Massachusetts will join a growing number of states that've legalized recreational marijuana. These new laws create a unique set of issues for many colleges and universities. Western New England University Law School professor Julie Steiner says the challenge for higher ed comes down to the very high stakes of considering whether or not to break federal law.
Justice, Law & Public Safety	11/22	6:45 a.m. 8:45 a.m.	4:25	MA	President-elect Donald Trump hasn't elaborated too much on his vision for immigration policy, beyond what he laid out during the campaign. But enough has been said that many believe he will limit the number of refugees allowed into the U.S.
Justice, Law & Public Safety	12/1	6:45 a.m. 8:45 a.m.	2:38	MA	The two sons of Ethel Rosenberg, who was executed as a spy in 1953, are heading to Washington D.C. today to urge president Obama to exonerate their mother before he leaves office. The brothers have long ties to Western Massachusetts, as NEPR Karen Brown reports.
Justice, Law & Public Safety	12/13	7:22 a.m. 4:50 p.m.	6:25	MA	The recreational marijuana law that takes effect in Massachusetts on Thursday does not mention driving under the influence. State House leaders say they expect to add some requirements in this area when they take up the act early next year. But deciding what to require may be difficult because there's no establishment test for determining when a driver is impaired by marijuana. WBUR's Martha Bebinger reports.

Justice, Law & Public Safety	12/14	6:36 a.m. 8:31 a.m.	3:27	MA	It will be legal tomorrow to possess small amounts of marijuana, or to grow it for recreational purposes, in Massachusetts. But that isn't the case in neighboring states, where pot possession remains illegal. Law enforcement in some of these places are getting ready.
Justice, Law & Public Safety	12/15	7:50 a.m.	7:40	MA	A weeklong court hearing in Springfield is delving into Massachusetts' second recent drug lab scandal and how it was reviewed by the state attorney general. Former chemist Sonja Farak admits taking drugs on the job and tampering with criminal evidence over a period of eight years. That has some defendants looking for new trials. And a judge is asking whether the attorney general's office covered up evidence of Farak's long history of abuse. WBUR's David Boeri has the story.
Politics /Public Policy	10/3	6:45 a.m. 8:45 a.m.	4:45	MA	Debates over four ballot questions in Massachusetts are heating up before the November election. But there's another ballot campaign gaining traction for a much more distant contest. An activist group says they have enough signatures to attempt to repeal the state's new law expanding rights for transgender individuals in public spaces. The measure would be on the 2018 ballot. For our weekly look at Beacon Hill politics, we hear from State House reporter Shira Schoenberg of The Springfield Republican Newspaper.
Politics /Public Policy	10/14	5:50 p.m.	7:48	MA	THE SHORT LIST: Chris Collins of the Greenfield Recorder and Matt Szafranski of the Western Mass Politics and Insight Blog discuss the issues of the week. Rintala reaction, lawsuit over transgender public accommodations law, mascot debate at Turners Fall High School and larger debate on such mascots.

Politics /Public Policy	10/17	6:45 a.m. 8:45 a.m.	4:31	MA	This Wednesday is the deadline to register to vote in the November Election in Massachusetts. Residents can sign up online, by mail or in person. State House News Service reporter Matt Murphy says close to 4.4 million residents were registered to vote just after the September primaries, according to Secretary of State Bill Galvin.
Politics /Public Policy	10/18	7:50 a.m.	8:18	MA	As we approach the November 8th elections, we're hosting a series of short debates on the four ballot questions facing Massachusetts voters this year. Today we look at Question Four - which would legalize the use of recreational marijuana by people over 21 years old. Northampton attorney Michael Cutler of the group Yes on 4, and a drafter of the ballot question, and State Representative Hannah Kane, a Republican from Shrewsbury who opposes the question offer their remarks.
Politics /Public Policy	10/18	6:33 a.m. 8:33 a.m.	3:45	VT	In half of the last eight presidential elections, Vermonters who split their vote between Republicans and Democrats have had a major impact on the outcome of the state's race for Governor. That's why Republican Phil Scott is making a big effort to appeal to some of Hillary Clinton's supporters. It's also why Democratic candidate Sue Minter is working hard to hold on to these voters. Vermont Public Radio's Bob Kinzel reports.
Politics /Public Policy	10/19	7:45 a.m.	3:57	MA	A new poll out this morning finds support for the legalization of marijuana is up in Massachusetts. 55 percent of likely voters now say they favor allowing adults to use the drug. WBUR's Fred Thys reports.

Politics /Public Policy	10/21	7:50 a.m.	8:30	MA	Continuing our series of short debates on the four ballot questions facing Massachusetts voters this year - today we look at Question 2. It would allow up to 12 charter schools to open or expand in the state per year. Charters are publicly funded schools that operate independently of school committees. Rachel Romano, founder of Veritas Prep Charter School in Springfield supports the ballot question. In opposition, Barbra Madeloni of the Massachusetts Teachers Association.
Politics /Public Policy	10/21	5:50 p.m.	9:02	MA	THE SHORT LIST: Ron Chimelis of the Springfield Republican and Mike Dobbs of the Reminder newspaper discuss the issues of the week. Complaints about excessive force by Springfield's police, and how the department deals with those complaints, continues to grow. Ethel Rosenberg's sons, after their parents' execution for espionage, were adopted by a western Massachusetts family. Now they are making another push to have their mother exonerated. It's no secret that Massachusetts is safe for Democrats in presidential years. But is that good for the state, which attracts zero attention during the general election?
Politics /Public Policy	10/24	6:33 a.m. 8:33 a.m.	4:12	MA	Thirty-seven states now provide some kind of opportunity for all registered voters to cast their ballots before election day. Massachusetts is the newest kid on the block with in-person "early voting" starting today.
Politics /Public Policy	10/24	6:33 a.m. 8:33 a.m.	3:33	MA	Senate President Stan Rosenberg said he would vote for the ballot question legalizing recreational marijuana. Statehouse reporter Matt Murphy says Rosenberg's announcement wasn't much of a surprise.

Politics /Public Policy	10/24	4:50 p.m. 6:20 p.m.	8:00	MA	Continuing our series of short debates on the four ballot questions facing Massachusetts voters this year - we look at Questions 3 which would ban the sale in Massachusetts of meat or eggs from hens, calves and pigs that are caged or confined in any way that prevents them from moving around. Joining us is Paul Shapiro, Vice president of the Farm Animal Protection for the Humane Society representing citizens for farm animal protection, which put forward the ballot question. In opposition, Diane Sullivan from Citizens Against Food Tax Injustice.
Politics /Public Policy	10/28	5:50 p.m.	7:33	MA	THE SHORT LIST: Springfield Republican's <i>Cynthia Simison</i> and The Reminder newspapers' <i>Mike Dobbs</i> discuss the issues of the week. Bill Weld is bailing from the Libertarian ticket, a mass of Massachusetts voters vote early, and what's expected with the transition ahead for the Massachusetts Turnpike.
Politics /Public Policy	10/31	6:45 a.m. 8:45 a.m.	4:19	MA	Eight days to go before Election Day - but already hundreds of thousands of Massachusetts residents have cast ballots during the state's first-ever early voting period. And today is a key deadline for political campaigns to file reports with the state about their contributions and expenses. As he does most Mondays, State House News Service reporter Matt Murphy tells us whether those campaign finance reports will be a good predictor of the results on November 8th.

Politics /Public Policy	10/31	4:50 p.m. 6:20 p.m.	7:26	MA	Question 1 proposes a change to the state's casino law which would allow the gaming commission to award a second slots parlor license, and it's written in a way to tailor the location to Revere. Representing supporters of the question is David Nealley, a city councilor in Bangor, Maine, where he worked to turn the Bangor Historic Track into the Hollywood Casino Bangor. He's speaking for the Horse Racing Jobs and Education Committee, the group behind ballot question that's run by developer Eugene McCain. Speaking for opponents — Celeste Ribeiro Myers, chair of the Committee for Responsible and Sustainable Economic Development. She is a longtime opponent of gambling in Massachusetts.
Politics /Public Policy	11/1	6:45 a.m. 8:45 a.m.	5:14	MA	The presidential race has dominated news coverage this election cycle. But there are a lot of other races on the ballot - including contests for Congress. In Massachusetts, the 9-member congressional delegation is made up entirely of Democrats and only four of them are facing Republican opponents. So if there's no major party candidate to challenge them, what does an incumbent member of Congress do come election season?
Politics /Public Policy	11/1	4:44 p.m.	3:12	NH	This Fall, a farm stand in Ashland, New Hampshire has offered a unique amenity - an outhouse that owner Chris Owens had converted into a makeshift voting booth. While the latest polls show an ever tightening presidential race, New Hampshire Public Radio's Sean Hurley says the results from the outhouse indicate a clear victory for one candidate.

Politics /Public Policy	11/2	6:45 a.m. 8:45 a.m.	4:52	MA	This election, just 4 of the 9 House members of the Massachusetts all-Democratic congressional delegation face Republican opponents,. Worcester Congressman Jim McGovern is running completely unopposed, while Springfield Representative Richie Neal faces an independent and a Libertarian challenger. Yesterday we reported on the reasons why the Republican Party is skipping these races. One of the big factors is money - which we'll take a closer look at today.
Politics /Public Policy	11/4	5:50 p.m.	8:01	MA	THE SHORT LIST: Greenfield Recorder columnist Chris Collins and Matt Szafranski from Western Mass Politics & Insight discuss the issues of the week. Amherst drinking age ballot question, questionable donations from law firm employees, and the top local contests of interest.
Politics /Public Policy	11/5	8:35 a.m. 10:35 a.m.	4:01	MA	The presidential election is the first time a woman is the presidential nominee of a major party. And the first woman to vote for president after passage of the 19th amendment - was apparently a resident of western Massachusetts. In 1920, Phoebe Jordan cast her ballot in the one room schoolhouse in the tiny Berkshire County town of New Ashford. Berkshire Eagle columnist Ruth Bass has written about this first... which she learned about from Jordan's grand-nephew.
Politics /Public Policy	11/7	6:22 a.m. 8:22 a.m.	4:32	MA	Tomorrow is Election Day. In Massachusetts, much of the state-level focus has been on the four ballot questions. Reporter Matt Murphy of the State House News Service says spending on the ballot initiatives has been "massive."

Politics /Public Policy	11/8	7:45 a.m.	5:06	NH/VT	It's a relatively quiet election year in Massachusetts - especially compared to neighboring New Hampshire and Vermont. NHPR's Dan Barrick tells us of two high-profile statewide races there, while Vermont Public Radio's Peter Hirschfeld tells us about projections on the Governor's race in his state.
Politics /Public Policy	11/9	6:45 a.m. 8:45 a.m.	4:22	MA	Even getting close to electing a woman president is meaningful for some. And one place where it really resonates is Northampton, Massachusetts, a city known for its vibrant women's community. NEPR's Nancy Cohen takes us through election day in Northampton... a place some might fondly call - a neighborhood of nasty women.
Politics /Public Policy	11/11	5:50 p.m.	7:29	MA	THE SHORT LIST: Trump implications in Massachusetts, shrinking GOP Congressional Delegation from New England, lawmakers to tinker with marijuana law, Baker fails on two ballot questions, how do you mark Veteran's Day?
Politics /Public Policy	11/14	6:33 a.m. 8:33 a.m.	4:29	MA	Last week, Republican Governor Charlie Baker did not vote for President. But he took strong stands on two major ballot issues - supporting the charter school expansion question, and opposing marijuana legalization. And both of those went the opposite way of what he would have liked. Matt Murphy of the State House News Service tells us what the political implications are for Governor Baker.
Politics /Public Policy	11/18	5:50 p.m.	7:37	MA	THE SHORT LIST: Massachusetts Health Connector post-Trump, recreational marijuana's a go, saying goodbye to Gwen Ifill.

Politics /Public Policy	11/21	6:45 a.m. 8:45 a.m.	4:10	MA	Former Massachusetts Speaker of the House Sal Dimasi will be released early from prison Tuesday. That's after a judge last week granted him an early end to his sentence for corruption, as Dimasi deals with health issues. He's battled cancer in prison - and he's able to leave early thanks to "compassionate release" laws on the federal level. A similar law does not exist on the state level in Massachusetts. State House News Service reporter Matt Murphy tells us if that might change in the wake of Dimasi's release.
Politics /Public Policy	12/2	5:50 p.m.	7:48	MA	THE SHORT LIST: The Reminder newspapers' <i>Mike Dobbs</i> and Matt Szafranski from <i>Western Mass Politics & Insight</i> discuss the issues of the week. Hampshire College flag debate, Congressman Neal gets plum post, Hampshire Sheriff's race reflection, and MGM as a source of news stories.
Politics /Public Policy	12/5	6:45 a.m. 8:45 a.m.	4:21	MA	On Beacon Hill, lawmakers in charge of writing the next budget will hear how much revenue they'll likely have to work with. Matt Murphy, a reporter with the State House News Service, says state revenue estimates have been on the optimistic side in recent years.
Politics /Public Policy	12/9	5:50 p.m.	7:58	MA	THE SHORT LIST: The Reminder newspapers' Mike Dobbs and Natalia Muñoz of <i>Vaya Con Muñoz</i> discuss the issues of the week. Healy and Exxon Battle it out over climate change, green party future under mass-resident Jill Stein, small amounts of marijuana to be legal next week.

Politics /Public Policy	12/12	6:35 a.m. 8:31 a.m.	5:06	MA	Massachusetts Governor Charlie Baker and members of his administration are still on a trade mission in Israel. And this week a group of State Senators - including Stan Rosenberg of Amherst - will travel to Minnesota for a fact-finding trip. State House News Service reporter Matt Murphy tells us what the lawmakers hope to find in the "land of ten-thousand lakes."
Politics /Public Policy	12/16	5:50 p.m.	7:57	MA	THE SHORT LIST: Springfield Republican's Ron Chimelis and Matt Szafranski of Western Mass Politics and Insight Blog discuss the issues of the week. Former Massachusetts Governor Mike Dukakis, and his Secretary of Transportation and current MIT Professor, Fred Salvucci, presented on Massachusetts Transportation Infrastructure this week. Massachusetts Governor Charlie Baker's voluntary retirements for state workers had 900 takers. Amherst College's men's cross country team was found to have circulated messages described as "vile."
Politics /Public Policy	12/19	6:45 a.m. 8:45 a.m.	4:02	MA	The Massachusetts Unemployment rate is at its lowest level in 15 years - according to the latest state numbers. And yet, in the past few weeks, we've seen Governor Charlie Baker cut nearly 100 million dollars from the current budget, and 900 state employees take early retirement offers. That's due to under-whelming revenue coming into state government, according to Matt Murphy of the State House News Service. He says revenue growth is expected to remain slow.

Politics /Public Policy	12/28	7:45 a.m.	5:06	MA	Next week, Massachusetts Congressman Richie Neal of Springfield will begin his 15th, and perhaps his most significant term in office. Neal will be the top democrat on the House Ways and Means Committee. That'll give him a front row seat to the debate over tax reform. President Elect Donald Trump has said he wants to drop the corporate tax rate from 35 to 15 percent. Neal said yesterday he couldn't support that reduction.
Politics /Public Policy	12/28	5:25 p.m.	4:09	MA	Massachusetts Congressman Jim McGovern starts the new term in Washington next week. The Democrat from Worcester says he's ready to fight the incoming Republican administration. But, he says, if president elect Donald Trump proposes a good measure, he'll support it.
Politics /Public Policy	12/30	5:50 p.m.	7:52	MA	THE SHORT LIST: Matt Szafranski of Western Mass Politics & Insight and Mike Dobbs of the Reminder newspapers discuss the issues of the week. Looking back at 2016 and ahead to 2017. Casinos in Springfield and Connecticut, I-91 construction, charter school debate, Charlie Baker's political fortunes, less sensational media, better headlines, more school reporting, big changes ahead in Holyoke politics.
Public Health	10/7	6:22 a.m. 8:22 a.m.	5:09	MA	New England has long held a reputation as a hub for higher education. The experience of working at a college can vary greatly from campus to campus, including employee benefits like parental leave. One college in the Pioneer Valley is trying to set a new standard.

Public Health	10/14	7:50 a.m.	6:00	MA	Across Massachusetts, many men and women who die from an overdose will leave behind a heart, liver, lungs or kidneys to save someone else's life. Since 2010, organ donations from drug users are up almost 800 percent across New England. While some families say they find comfort in knowing that a son or a sister's heart beats on, WBUR's Martha Bebinger reports that organ donation seems to compound their grief.
Public Health	10/20	6:33 a.m. 8:22 a.m.	7:16	MA	Massachusetts is one of about forty states where someone who abuses drugs or alcohol to an extreme can be legally committed to a locked treatment facility. In most cases, a worried family member has to go to court to make that happen. But one recent trend that has surprised even court officials is how many addicts are appealing directly to a judge - willing to give up their civil rights in exchange for some help.
Public Health	11/2	7:51 a.m.	5:12	MA	Some supporters of Ballot Question 4, which would make marijuana legal for general use in Massachusetts, says vote yes because marijuana is safer than tobacco and alcohol. But is that right? And is "safer than" a reason to vote yes? WBUR's Martha Bebinger takes a look.
Public Health	11/21 11/22	5:35 p.m. 7:45 a.m.	11:55	MA	About a dozen miles off the coast of Cape Cod sits a rustic island named Penikese - near the end of the Elizabeth Island chain. A hundred years ago, Penikese was home to a leper colony, then a school for troubled boys... and a bird sanctuary. This fall, Penikese opened to its newest incarnation - a treatment program for opioid addicts.

Public Health	12/16	6:45 a.m. 8:45 a.m.	5:09	MA	This season, children will be sharing more than colds and holiday cheer. Head lice will benefit from kids' friendly head-to-head contact. And now there's something new to be mindful of in the fight against these pesky bugs.
Public Health	12/28	6:22 a.m. 8:22 a.m.	6:07	MA	New England is an old region, and not just by historical standards. The population here is aging faster than almost any other place in the country. Fewer people are having children and many of the state's struggle to keep younger generations here. As baby boomers grow older, and live longer, the need for healthcare workers grows. In the second part of the New England News Collaborative series "Facing Change," WBUR's Shannon Dooling takes a look at who's caring for aging New Englanders.
Science	12/8	6:35 a.m. 8:31 a.m.	5:01	MA	Recently for biologists at UMass Amherst were looking at shifts in bird populations in New Hampshire's White Mountains over 17 years. Their hypothesis - that as the climate warms, species will move north or up-slope in the mountains. That turned out to be only partially true. Some lower elevation birds did move up, but many birds in higher elevations moved down. Bill DeLuca is a conservation biologist at UMass, and one of the authors of the study. He says some of the surprising shifts could be due to changes in the birds' habitat.