

*Suzanne T. Swail*

7/1/2020

WAIC, Springfield, Massachusetts

**Issues/Programs List**

**April 1, 2020 through June 30, 2020.**

During this period, WAIC broadcast programming about local issues that aired during program segments reserved for local feature-length reports, interviews and commentaries, Monday through Friday at (typically) 5:51 a.m., 6:22 a.m., 6:45 a.m., 7:22 a.m., 7:45 a.m., 7:51 a.m., 8:22 a.m., 8:45 a.m., 4:44 p.m., 5:44p.m. and 5:50 p.m. or similar times within the morning and afternoon news programs.

Weekly installments of ***The Short List*** were (typically) broadcast on Fridays at 5:50p.m. during WAIC's broadcast of *All Things Considered*. In this segment, a rotating panel of seasoned journalists and media professionals analyzes the major issues in the news during the current week. They provide context, and a fresh unpacking of information from three stories in a roughly eight and a half minute roundtable discussion.

In addition, local newscasts were broadcast immediately following national newscasts on the hour from 6:00 a.m. through 8:00 a.m. inclusive, and 4:00 p.m. through 6:00 p.m. inclusive. On Saturday, local issue programming was presented at 8:35 a.m., 9:35 a.m., 10:35 a.m., and on local newscasts following national newscasts on the hour from 8:00 a.m. through 10:00 a.m. inclusive, and at 12:00 p.m. On Sunday, local newscasts were broadcast following national newscasts on the hour at 8:00 a.m. and 9:00 a.m.

Many reports on the same and related subjects were broadcast daily and weekly through WAIC's broadcast of such national news programs as *Morning Edition*, *All Things Considered*, *Marketplace*, *Here & Now*, *Fresh Air*, *Weekend Edition* and others.

**Issues**

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

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

TOPIC	AIRDATE	NEWSCAST	LENGTH	STATE	SUMMARY
Arts & Culture	4/9/2020	5:45am 7:45am	4:32	MA	The coronavirus has caused cancellation of spring sports, a new situation for athletes and fans at UMass. Athletic Director Ryan Bamford discussed the impact of the pandemic on both the winter and spring sports seasons.
Arts & Culture	4/9/2020	6:45am 8:45am	4:11	MA	It is Passover week for Jews and Holy Week for Christians. Music is at the core of many religious rituals, and even though congregants at one western Massachusetts church can't be together due to the pandemic, their voices are still singing in unison.
Arts & Culture	4/16/2020	6:45am 8:45am	4:42	MA	Museums have had to close during the Covid-19 pandemic. Many of the larger museums in the region are taking a variety of approaches to engage would-be visitors and donors.
Arts & Culture	5/8/2020	7:51am	6:05	MA	Stage actors and directors are having to find ways to adapt to the pandemic shutdowns by producing theater online. One western Massachusetts playwright discusses his new show.
Arts & Culture	5/15/2020	6:45am 8:45am	4:41	MA	It's not easy to find much that's lighthearted in today's world. That's why a western Massachusetts acting teacher created the Pioneer Valley Laughing Club---a chance to act like things are funny even when they're not. NEPR's Karen Brown attended one of his Zoom classes.
Arts & Culture	5/29/2020	6:22am 8:22am	4:41	MA	A western Massachusetts fabric artist has been sewing pieces of quilts since mid-March. As part of NEPR's series on making art in a pandemic, Timna Tarr says that it's needed exercise right now, just to sit at her machine and sew.
Arts & Culture	6/5/2020	6:45am 8:45am	5:57	MA	Music helps people get through tough moments in life. For one young Springfield artist, a chance musical moment could be life-changing. Jill Kaufman continues our series on making art in a pandemic.

TOPIC	AIRDATE	NEWSCAST	LENGTH	STATE	SUMMARY
Arts & Culture	6/17/2020	6:22am 8:22am	7:14	MA	The singers in "Young At Heart" have been rehearsing and making quarantine music videos from their homes around western Massachusetts since mid-March. For our series on making art in a pandemic, Jill Kaufman sat in on a few online rehearsals.
Community Voices	4/2/2020	5:51am 7:51am	2:13	MA	Like many parents, commentator Grace Lin thought she knew how best to deal with the anxiety associated with the coronavirus. But her daughter had other ideas.
Community Voices	4/8/2020	7:50am	2:23	MA	Commentator Genesis Rios is a 5th-grader at Sheffield Elementary School in Turners Falls. She has been observing how adults are handling the coronavirus---and she has a request.
Community Voices	4/8/2020	7:50am	4:17	VT	When the coronavirus pandemic hit, many musicians lost work. In response, one Vermont violin maker decided to live-stream himself making a violin, and raffle it off to raise money for musicians in need.
Community Voices	4/14/2020	6:22am 8:22am	1:47	MA	As people search for ways to cope with lockdown, some have rediscovered the virtues of puzzles. Commentator Susan Johnson hadn't done a jigsaw puzzle since childhood, and decided to give them a try again.
Community Voices	4/17/2020	6:45am 8:45am	5:05	MA	During the Covid-19 pandemic, virtual platforms have become the gathering place for many religious groups in the region. But as NEPR's Nancy Cohen reports, faith leaders are tweaking the experience to bring a sense of human contact and address community needs.
Community Voices	4/22/2020	6:33am 8:33am	3:00	MA	One of the veterans who died at the Holyoke Soldiers' Home in recent days of Covid-19 was Weldon Long. He was 82. NEPR's Carrie Healy spoke with his son, Mike.
Community Voices	4/23/2020	5:51am 7:51am	2:36	MA	The pandemic has caused much disruption, but not everything has changed. Commentator Toby Goodrich says one thing we can still count on---and celebrate---is the replacement of winter's grays and browns by the color green.

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Community Voices	5/5/2020	7:34am	3:05	MA	A former UMass grad student died last week from complications of Covid-19. Her friends believe racial bias played a role in her death, and they say it's something she experienced during her years in Amherst.
Community Voices	5/7/2020	6:22am 8:22am	2:55	MA	One western Massachusetts resident who recently died from Covid-19 was Fran Slasinski of Westfield. He was 78. Carrie Healy spoke with his family.
Community Voices	5/8/2020	7:51am	1:56	CT	Spring is peak season for bird traffic, and since the pandemic began, interest in bird-watching seems to be soaring.
Community Voices	5/19/2020	6:45am 8:45am	2:45	MA	There have now been over 650 deaths in western Massachusetts attributable to Covid-19. One former area resident who died recently from the virus was Virginia Sullivan Finn. New England Public Radio's Carrie Healy spoke with Finn's daughter.
Community Voices	5/20/2020	6:22am 8:22am	7:41	MA	Since the pandemic began, the number of people visiting New England food pantries has risen sharply. As part of our essential worker series, NEPR's Nancy Cohen reports on the experiences of one worker at the Northampton Survival Center.
Community Voices	5/21/2020	6:45am 8:45am	1:56	MA	Commentator Bhuwan Gautam is a refugee from Bhutan who lives in Springfield. He says many immigrants and refugees lack access to vitally important information needed to stay safe during this pandemic.
Community Voices	5/26/2020	6:34am 8:34am	5:11	MA	Richie Davis has more than 4 decades of stories behind him as a reporter for the Recorder newspaper in Franklin County, Massachusetts. Davis is now retired and has written a new book, a compilation of stories from the paper titled "Inner Landscapes: True Tales From Extraordinary Lives." He told NEPR's Carrie Healy that he always tried to be 'present and in-person.'

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Community Voices	5/26/2020	6:34am 8:34am	2:07	MA	Commentator Tinky Weisblat had an experience in 2013 that she feels is germane to the situation in which we all find ourselves today. That's when her memoir about caring for her mother, an Alzheimer's sufferer, was published. That's when the reviews came out, too.
Community Voices	5/27/2020	6:45am 8:45am	4:50	MA	People have more downtime to fuss over their pets these days and many families are choosing to get a new one. So, unlike most medical offices, the Mill Valley Veterinary Clinic in Belchertown, Massachusetts, is busier than ever.
Community Voices	6/1/2020	5:45am 7:45am	2:51	MA	Angry protests continue throughout the nation following the death of George Floyd in police custody. Commentator Imo Imeh has been thinking about this from his art studio in Holyoke, Massachusetts.
Community Voices	6/3/2020	6:34am 8:34am	2:56	MA	Catherine Holden Forrester of Agawam died April 24th of complications from Covid-19. NEPR's Carrie Healy spoke with Forrester's daughter.
Community Voices	6/3/2020	6:34am 8:34am	4:53	MA	As part of NEPR's series on essential workers during the pandemic, Nancy Cohen reports on a group of tradesmen and -women that aren't typically thought about until they're needed: sewage treatment technicians.
Community Voices	6/16/2020	6:34am 8:34am	4:33	MA	Even though they're not the hardest-hit group, black millennials belong to a demographic disproportionately represented in Covid-19 cases and deaths. Instead of going out to connect with peers this summer, many are taking creative precautions in their leisure activities.
Community Voices	6/16/2020	6:34am 8:34am	2:27	MA	The police killing of George Floyd---against a backdrop of coronavirus health disparities---has again highlighted the pervasiveness of anti-blackness in American society. Commentator Tochi Onyebuchi and other black authors see this in the publishing industry, and have thrown down the gauntlet.
Community Voices	6/19/2020	5:45am 7:45am	2:18	MA	"Black Writers Read" goes live on Facebook tonight, giving not only local writers but writers from all over a forum to speak on the topic of Juneteenth.

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Economic Development	4/15/2020	6:33am 8:33am	2:29	MA	As the coronavirus damages the supply chain, food banks across the state are struggling. But a new partnership with the Food Bank of Western Massachusetts promises to increase access to fresh produce at a time when it's most needed.
Economic Development	4/23/2020	5:51am 7:51am	5:05	VT	Of all the industries devastated by the Covid-19 pandemic, New England's farmers are among the hardest hit. Wholesale milk prices have plummeted and some dairy farmers have been forced to dump their milk.
Economic Development	5/14/2020	6:22am 8:22am	4:41	MA	A major antique show in Massachusetts has been cancelled due to the coronavirus. For the businesses that make the long-time Brimfield Antique Flea Market come to life it's a deep hit, and some are salvaging what they can.
Economic Development	5/21/2020	6:45am 8:45am	1:20	CT	Restaurants welcomed customers yesterday during phase one of Connecticut's Covid-19 reopening plan. Frankie Graziano was in Enfield as the County Diner reopened after being closed for two months.
Economic Development	5/29/2020	6:22am 8:22am	2:44	MA	The unemployment rate in Massachusetts has topped 15%, but businesses say some laid-off workers are choosing to stay off the job because with a \$600 federal unemployment boost, they're making more by not working. And because of Covid-19, there are legal reasons for making that choice.
Education	4/8/2020	7:50am	2:10	MA	Since the Governor ordered Massachusetts schools closed in March, teachers and parents have been grappling with educating students at home. Springfield schools are handing out more than 9000 laptops to facilitate remote learning.
Education	4/10/2020	6:45am 8:45am	5:14	MA	Covid-19 threatens the finances of cash-strapped colleges, and they now face struggles with admissions for next year and demands for room and board refunds. As WGBH's Kirk Carapezza reports, if the pandemic drags on, more colleges could see layoffs or even close altogether.

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Education	4/14/2020	6:22am 8:22am	4:03	MA	College students are off campus now, and NEPR's Karen Brown, who teaches journalism at UMass Amherst, asked her students to record scenes of their lives in lockdown. They sent in sound from all over the country and even Spain, as they get used to being back home and to the slow pace of isolation.
Education	4/28/2020	7:45am	4:18	MA	College graduation is approaching and almost all school-based ceremonies have been cancelled or rescheduled. The significance of wearing a cap and gown is especially poignant for many this year.
Education	5/11/2020	7:45am	3:53	MA	Having a fast, reliable internet connection is an essential part of making it through the school day, but for residents in many New England communities, that kind of connection at home is not an option. Some students and teachers in western Massachusetts are doing their work in their cars.
Education	5/18/2020	7:51am	2:06	MA	Springfield, Massachusetts has decided to let high-school graduates walk across an actual stage to receive their diploma, despite Covid-19 restrictions. But it will still be far from a typical ceremony.
Education	6/11/2020	6:45am 8:45am	4:41	MA	Starting next week, child-care centers in Massachusetts can apply to re-open, but they will have to meet the state's new safety requirements against Covid-19. Many child-care providers and parents say those rules are unrealistic and potentially harmful for the emotional and developmental health of children.
Education	6/23/2020	6:45am 7:50am	3:13	MA	Springfield, Massachusetts seniors have just finished a very unusual graduation season, combining virtual ceremonies and actual walking across a stage. One graduate explains why having a bit of pomp and circumstance felt so important.
Education	6/25/2020	6:45am 8:45am	4:38	MA	College administrators hoping to reopen campuses in the fall must weigh the health of students and staff against the financial hit they could take if campuses remain closed. The decision is especially tough for smaller colleges.

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Energy & Environment	5/18/2020	7:51am	5:06	MA	New England's Purple Martin population, much reduced by severe weather more than a century ago, may benefit from the efforts of one Cape Cod woman determined to bring these birds back to the region.
Justice, Law & Public Safety	4/1/2020	6:45am 8:34am	2:15	MA	A look at one consequence of the Covid-19 pandemic: its impact on small-town fire departments.
Justice, Law & Public Safety	4/1/2020	8:34am	2:24	MA	Should some Massachusetts prisoners be released because of Covid-19? That was the question before the State Supreme Judicial Court yesterday.
Justice, Law & Public Safety	4/21/2020	6:45am 8:45am	2:18	MA	A Massachusetts man who's been in prison for 41 years is now out, at least while he makes the case that he was wrongly convicted. The risk of Covid-19 played a role in his release.
Justice, Law & Public Safety	5/12/2020	6:34am 8:34am	1:49	MA	Those charged with protecting children in Massachusetts say they're concerned by a significant decline in reports of alleged neglect and abuse during the Covid-19 crisis.
Justice, Law & Public Safety	5/27/2020	5:45am 7:45am	3:43	MA	The Massachusetts Supreme Judicial Court is among those urging Gov. Charlie Baker to release prisoners because of the coronavirus. But such clemency is rarely issued.
Justice, Law & Public Safety	6/1/2020	5:45am 7:45am	2:59	MA	As protests over police brutality swept the country---some violent---hundreds of residents gathered on the town common in Amherst, Massachusetts to demand justice for George Floyd.
Justice, Law & Public Safety	6/2/2020	6:45am 8:45am	3:30	MA	Hundreds gathered yesterday in Northampton, Massachusetts, to protest police brutality and the death of George Floyd. After a tense standoff the demonstration ended when officers made a simple gesture.
Justice, Law & Public Safety	6/4/2020	7:45am	4:13	MA	Of the hundreds of protests across the country in response to police brutality and the killing of George Floyd, some have ended in violence and property damage. NEPR's Ben James attended a rally in Holyoke, Massachusetts, where due to careful organizing it all went off without a hitch.



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Justice, Law & Public Safety	6/8/2020	5:45am 7:45am	5:21	MA	In a dozen protests this past weekend in western Massachusetts, thousands called for more police accountability. A look at Saturday's marches in Springfield and Northampton.
Politics & Public Policy	4/6/2020	6:45am 8:45am	4:12	MA	BH In 5: With an expected surge in Covid-19 cases approaching, Massachusetts is still well short of ventilators; the rising corona virus death toll at the Holyoke Soldiers' Home is focusing attention on the dangers faced by those in group homes; the Democratic State Committee wants to lower the signature requirement for candidates to gain ballot access; lawmakers on Beacon Hill are working on a moratorium on evictions and foreclosures.
Politics & Public Policy	4/10/2020	5:51pm	9:38	MA	TSL: The impact of the corona virus on elections, businesses, and veterans.
Politics & Public Policy	4/13/2020	6:45am 8:45am	4:17	MA	BH In 5: Many nursing homes in the state report deaths from the corona virus, and about 45 percent of deaths from the virus state-wide have been in long-term care facilities; federal prosecutors are looking into the case of veterans' deaths from Covid-19 at the Holyoke Soldiers' Home; the state is now mandating collection of race and ethnicity data for those testing positive for the corona virus; Congressman Joe Kennedy, running for the Senate in the September Democratic primary, is asking state legislators to pass a vote-by-mail bill.
Politics & Public Policy	4/17/2020	5:51pm	9:07	MA	TSL: Police officers reinstated despite pending criminal charges; is the idea of small government now obsolete; is marijuana an 'essential service;' a look at how Connecticut's corona virus response compares to that of Massachusetts.

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Politics & Public Policy	4/20/2020	6:45am 8:45am	5:00	MA	BH In 5: A housing-security bill was stalled by a single objection; western Massachusetts hospitals have beds available even amidst the Covid-19 surge---has the Governor addressed regional differences? Can the state expect budget help from Washington and are state employee layoffs possible? The Supreme Judicial Court has weighed in on signature requirements for candidates to elective office.
Politics & Public Policy	4/24/2020	5:51pm	9:34	MA	TSL: Sheriffs complain about early release of prisoners due to corona virus fears; towns impose face-mask orders; schools shut down for the rest of the year.
Politics & Public Policy	4/27/2020	6:45am 8:45am	5:00	MA	BH In 5: The latest on whether Governor Baker will lift the shutdown order as planned on May 4; with a majority of Covid-19 deaths occurring in long-term care facilities, the House has passed a bill calling for more specific data to be made public; results of last week's meeting of the state's Public Health Council; and can Massachusetts expect direct budget relief from a new federal package being discussed in Congress?
Politics & Public Policy	5/4/2020	6:45am 8:45am	5:30	MA	BH In 5: Governor Baker changed his mind about making face mask wearing a local option and has now ordered it statewide; Lt. Governor Polito's panel on business reopening continues its work; members of the House may have to meet in person to enact rules for remote sessions and this has led to partisan conflict; the latest on relaxation of signature requirements for public candidates and ballot questions.
Politics & Public Policy	5/8/2020	5:51pm	9:28	MA	TSL: new proposals to handle voting under Covid-19 circumstances; road fatality rate rises; high ratings for Governor Baker.

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Politics & Public Policy	5/11/2020	8:45am	5:00	MA	BH In 5: Maine and Rhode Island reopening...where is Massachusetts today? The reopening advisory committee will report to the Governor by next Monday, how cautiously is he likely to proceed? How will school and day-care closures play into the debate? And the state's contact tracing program faces the obstacle of people not answering their phones.
Politics & Public Policy	5/15/2020	5:51pm	9:56	MA	TSL: Reopening in Massachusetts lagging behind other states; special-election polling place concerns; more fallout from the Holyoke Soldiers' Home---did the state fail to appoint a medical overseer?
Politics & Public Policy	5/18/2020	6:45am 8:45am	5:30	MA	BH In 5: With details leaking out about the governor's reopening plan, there is pushback from some Democrat lawmakers concerned about going too fast; a look at this week's two special elections for state Senate vacancies, with town clerks saying they're having trouble finding staff for polling places.
Politics & Public Policy	5/19/2020	6:45am 8:45am	2:18	MA	Gov. Charlie Baker has unveiled details of a plan to restart the Massachusetts economy. Among things allowed to reopen during the first phase are houses of worship---but not all are planning to do so right away.
Politics & Public Policy	5/22/2020	5:51pm	9:37	MA	TSL: Baker's reopening plan; how colleges and universities plan to handle next fall's reopening; sports in the pandemic era; number of Republicans in the Massachusetts legislature dwindles
Politics & Public Policy	5/22/2020	6:34am 8:34am	2:24	MA	Memorial Day usually means parades and other public commemorations honoring those who died while serving in the armed forces. But given Covid-19 pandemic restrictions, some western Massachusetts communities are changing the way they mark the occasion.

TOPIC	AIRDATE	NEWSCAST	LENGTH	STATE	SUMMARY
Politics & Public Policy	5/25/2020	6:45am 8:45am	5:30	MA	BH In 5: A look at the phases of Governor Baker's business reopening plan; how much pressure is there to get businesses like restaurants reopened in light of April's 15.1% unemployment rate in the state? In the wake of last week's special elections there are now just four GOP seats in the 40-member state Senate; the House Speaker has outlined his priorities but did not promise a full-year budget due to all the unknowns.
Politics & Public Policy	5/29/2020	5:51pm	9:49	MA	TSL: Holyoke Soldiers' Home head denies Covid-19 outbreak coverup; local reaction to Minneapolis police-custody death; Connecticut casinos to open against governor's wishes
Politics & Public Policy	6/1/2020	6:45am 8:45am	5:30	MA	BH In 5: A police brutality protest in Boston turned violent last night; Governor Baker has been walking a fine line in his public comments; concerns being voiced about the mass gatherings facilitating the spread of the corona virus; new guidelines for hotel and restaurant reopenings are expected; lawmakers have ideas about alternatives to in-person voting during the pandemic.
Politics & Public Policy	6/5/2020	5:51pm	9:52	MA	TSL: Police brutality protests in Springfield, Holyoke, and Northampton; protest crowds spark Covid-19 health concerns; Markey and Kennedy square off in Senate primary debate.
Politics & Public Policy	6/8/2020	6:45am 8:45am	5:30	MA	BH In 5: Governor Baker announces Phase 2 of the coronavirus reopening plan; public health advocates call for better safeguards for low-income workers; after widespread protest against police brutality and racism, leadership on Beacon Hill promises a state response and the legislature's Black & Latino Caucus has put out a 10-point plan to address the issues.

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Politics & Public Policy	6/15/2020	6:45am 8:45am	6:22	MA	BH In 5: Legislative leaders and the governor all seem on-board to make changes to policing in Massachusetts; a look at Covid-19 updates and the possible expansion of outdoor seating for restaurants; transportation issues are in the news including discussions of a state transportation funding bill and a revised estimate of ridership on the proposed east-west rail line.
Politics & Public Policy	6/19/2020	5:45am 7:45am	2:08	CT	Connecticut lawmakers this week heard testimony from essential workers who got sick with Covid-19 while on the job. They are seeking better access to workers' compensation.
Politics & Public Policy	6/22/2020	6:45am 8:45am	5:30	MA	BH In 5: Restaurants in Massachusetts to reopen with social distancing policies; huge decisions remain to be made in forming K-12 education guidelines for the fall; the state gaming commission will announce safety standards this week for MGM and other casinos to reopen; the state's fiscal year ends soon and there is as yet no budget in place for the new one--will Governor Baker propose a stopgap package?
Politics & Public Policy	6/24/2020	6:45am 8:45am	4:12	MA	As the nation focuses its attention on criminal justice and policing reforms, so do Sen. Ed Markey and Congressman Joe Kennedy, as the Democratic Senate primary in Massachusetts approaches. The two have had fiery disagreements in debates, but when it comes to addressing systemic racism in policing, there is more that unites them than divides.
Politics & Public Policy	6/26/2020	5:51pm	10:02	MA	TSL: The Holyoke Soldiers' Home report is released; details emerge on the clergy sex abuse report; the status of college athletics in the fall; Massachusetts and Connecticut K-12 public schools will reopen.

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Politics & Public Policy	6/29/2020	6:45am 8:45am	6:20	MA	BH In 5: State lawmakers wrestle with budget uncertainties due largely to the pandemic; Gov. Baker sees encouraging public-health data in Massachusetts even as corona virus cases are on the rise elsewhere---are more business reopenings likely soon? With Juneteenth under discussion as a state holiday and residents citing systemic racism as a leading concern, will legislators take action to address it beyond the governor's police-licensing proposal? And it looks like a referendum question about extending beer and wine sales won't make it onto the November ballot.
Public Health	4/1/2020	6:45am 8:34am	2:28	MA	Two labor unions representing workers at the Holyoke Soldiers' Home say requests for more personal protective gear were denied by management as a Covid-19 out break began in the state-run veterans' facility, where at least 6 recent deaths have been attributed to the virus.
Public Health	4/2/2020	5:51am 7:51am	5:11	MA	Massachusetts officials urge the public to stay home as much as possible to reduce the spread of the coronavirus, though state trails, beaches and forests remain open. Outdoors as well as inside, social distancing is a must---and that's not always happening.
Public Health	4/3/2020	5:51pm	9:38	MA	TSL: A discussion of issues surrounding the state's response to the Covid-19 outbreak.
Public Health	4/3/2020	6:45am 8:45am	4:36	MA	Not long ago, opioid addiction was the most-talked-about public health problem in Massachusetts. While the Covid-19 pandemic has taken over, the drug crisis has not gone away, and addressing it has become much harder.
Public Health	4/8/2020	6:22am 8:22am	6:23	MA	Due to the pandemic, hospital birthing centers have changed policies, limiting how many can attend a birth. This is driving up demand for home births.
Public Health	4/15/2020	6:33am 8:33am	4:47	MA	The pandemic has put immense strain on primary-care practices, and although they've made major changes in how they operate, in some cases that won't be enough.

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Public Health	4/15/2020	7:45am	4:03	MA	More than 150 Covid-19 cases are reported in Massachusetts jails and prisons, and four inmates have died of the disease at the Bridgewater facility. State corrections officers say they have released more than 300 prisoners in the past week.
Public Health	4/21/2020	6:45am 8:45am	2:44	MA	With Connecticut now ordering face masks for anyone in public if a 6-foot distance cannot be maintained, Massachusetts is advising its residents to do the same---and some cities in the state are going a step further.
Public Health	4/22/2020	6:33am 8:33am	7:18	MA	The quick spread of Covid-19 at the Holyoke Soldiers' Home has sparked three investigations. Former deputy superintendent of the home John Paradis resigned in 2015 and has publicly complained about a lack of state support for the home---and staffing levels in particular. He says those are factors worth considering in this crisis.
Public Health	4/27/2020	5:45am 7:45am	3:52	MA	Western Massachusetts health-care providers say they now have much better access to Covid-19 testing than a month ago, but ideally they'd like even more.
Public Health	4/29/2020	6:45am 8:45am	4:25	MA	Among the big numbers associated with the coronavirus pandemic, a smaller story is playing out within human cells. What exactly happens when the novel coronavirus enters our bodies?
Public Health	4/30/2020	6:45am 8:45am	4:59	MA	As the Covid-19 outbreak spreads and continues to take lives at the state-run Soldiers' Home in Holyoke, a timeline has emerged on preparations. Earlier this week the home's board of trustees released minutes from its March 10 meeting, and The Daily Hampshire Gazette's Dusty Christensen reported on what they reveal.
Public Health	5/1/2020	5:51pm	9:41	MA	TSL: The Covid-19 issue---new reporting on the Soldiers' Home situation from the Daily Hampshire Gazette; Governor Baker urges patience on economic reopening; testing available but still limited.

TOPIC	AIRDATE	NEWSCAST	LENGTH	STATE	SUMMARY
Public Health	5/1/2020	6:45am 8:45am	4:33	MA	Senior living facilities have emerged as pandemic hot-spots, and about 2000 patients at long-term care facilities in Massachusetts have died of the disease. Now, some families are wondering if it would be safer to bring their loved ones home.
Public Health	5/5/2020	6:22am 8:22am	6:55	MA	More than 3500 people in Massachusetts are hospitalized with Covid-19, about a quarter of them in intensive care. As part of New England Public Radio's Essential Workers series, Nancy Cohen tells the story of one ICU nurse confronting challenges she's never faced before.
Public Health	5/5/2020	7:34am	4:30	VT	Studies have shown that the coronavirus can live up to three days on plastic and metal, and the people who handle recyclables are worried about exposure.
Public Health	5/7/2020	6:22am 8:22am	4:32	MA	A shortage of N95 masks for medical professionals has led some hospitals to sanitize and re-use masks, but researchers aren't sure how safe that is.
Public Health	5/8/2020	6:45am 8:45am	4:48	MA	Hampden County residents have the highest Covid-19 death rate in the state. NEPR's Karen Brown explores possible reasons why.
Public Health	5/12/2020	6:34am 8:34am	5:35	MA	The coronavirus pandemic has fed fears both of getting sick---and of food scarcity. And that's infused grocery shopping with more anxiety for customers and workers. As part of New England Public Radio's series on essential workers, Nancy Cohen reports on a manager at one store in the Berkshires who's seen panic in the aisles.
Public Health	5/14/2020	6:22am 8:22am	2:33	CT	Connecticut hair salons and barber shops will be allowed to reopen on May 20. But as Frankie Graziano reports, some hair stylists are worried about being too close to customers.
Public Health	5/22/2020	6:34am 8:34am	5:43	NH	With the warmer weather and increased outdoor activity, the risk of tick bites increases. Taylor Quimby of the New Hampshire Public Radio podcast "Patient Zero" has advice on what to do if you're bitten.



TOPIC	AIRDATE	NEWSCAST	LENGTH	STATE	SUMMARY
Public Health	5/28/2020	6:45am 8:45am	4:20	MA	On June 1 the Massachusetts ban on selling menthol cigarettes takes effect. Convenience-store owners say the timing could not be worse, given the coronavirus pandemic. A public health expert calls that "smoke and mirrors."
Public Health	6/3/2020	7:45am	4:06	MA	Child care providers in Massachusetts face new restrictions when they reopen this summer. Gov. Baker released guidance yesterday on safe operation of such facilities.
Public Health	6/9/2020	6:45am 8:45am	4:31	MA	The wave of protests following George Floyd's death runs counter to social distancing policies imposed due to the pandemic. More on how the conflict is being handled.
Public Health	6/12/2020	6:45am 8:45am	5:05	MA	Covid-19 has been especially lethal for seniors in Massachusetts. As older people continue to isolate themselves to protect against the virus, some are drawing on their many years of life to get through the pandemic.
Public Health	6/19/2020	6:45am 8:45am	5:43	MA	Early in the pandemic, hospitals worried about having enough ventilators to treat Covid-19 patients. Over the past few months, some western Massachusetts hospitals have been trying to rely less on ventilators.
Public Health	6/26/2020	7:45am	3:14	MA	An employee of a Hadley, Massachusetts hamburger shop says she was fired after telling customers they needed to wear masks. That claim is denied by the restaurant. Two other former employees have criticized the company's allegedly lax attitude about masks.