

Sumner T. Hall
6 April 2020

WAIC, Springfield, Massachusetts

Issues/Programs List

January 1, 2020 through March 31, 2020.

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

Topic	Airdate	Newscast	Duration	State	Summary
Arts & Culture	2/5/2020	6:22am 8:22am	3:26	MA	Since the Kennedy Administration, the State Department has run a program called 'Art In Embassies.' American artists submit their work and ambassadors select pieces to display in about 200 embassies. As Jill Kaufman reports, New England artists were represented recently at an embassy connected to President Trump's impeachment.
Arts & Culture	3/13/2020	6:39am 8:39am	5:16	MA	With new cases of Covid-19 announced daily, many events, meetings and conferences around New England are being postponed or cancelled. Among them: an annual Catholic gathering in April that attracts 15-thousand faithful from around the world to Stockbridge, Massachusetts.
Arts & Culture	3/20/2020	5:51am 7:51am	4:19	MA	Last night a live music event with four Western Massachusetts bands premiered---on Facebook Live. The closure of clubs and the ban on large gatherings is 'virtually' changing the music scene around the region.
Arts & Culture	3/24/2020	5:51am 7:51am	4:31	MA	Boston author Stephen Puleo shares what he learned about the development of international humanitarian

aid procedures while writing his new book about relief efforts during the Irish potato famine.

Topic	Airdate	Newscast	Duration	State	Summary
Community Voices	1/10/2020	6:45am 8:45am	2:42	MA	Each week, the New York Times Book Review asks what three writers an author would like to invite to dinner. Commentator Susan Johnson wonders, does it have to be dinner? How about a walk instead?
Community Voices	1/10/2020	4:44pm 3:55	MA	Sunday	is the 10th anniversary of the earthquake that devastated Haiti, and as the Haitian-American community in Massachusetts reflects on that anniversary, there is concern about the political unrest in their home country.
Community Voices	1/15/2020	5:45am 7:45am	3:59	MA	This week mark 10 years since South Hadley high school student Phoebe Prince died by suicide after enduring months of bullying. A look at how this tragedy became a catalyst for change.
Community Voices	1/17/2020	5:45am 7:45am	4:53	MA	In the wake of Spygate, Deflategate, and the sign-stealing scandal that led to Alex Cora's dismissal as Red Sox manager, Wall Street Journal sports columnist Jason Gay says it's time for Boston fans to admit that Title Town is really Cheater Town.
Community	1/20/2020	6:20am 8:20am	6:31	MA	Nearly 250 years ago this

month men gathered in a house in the Berkshires to draft a document aimed at the Crown, declaring that 'mankind' are equal and free. Elizabeth Freeman, a woman enslaved at the home, overheard them and used those ideas to win her freedom.

Topic	Airdate	Newscast	Duration	State	Summary
Community Voices	1/21/2020	6:34am 8:34am	2:13	MA	The impeachment trial begins today, but many people find themselves avoiding the news. Commentator Elizabeth Vozzola, a developmental psychologist, believes taking breaks from the news may be necessary to remain engaged in our democratic process.
Community Voices	1/30/2020	6:45am 8:45am	4:52	MA	The historical contributions of men fill museums; women are usually sidelined. One collector from Western Massachusetts has spent a lifetime addressing the imbalance, and the results are now on display in New York City.
Community Voices	2/5/2020	6:22am 8:22am	2:54	MA	The impeachment trial wrapping up today has commentator Bruce Watson recalling a Republican senator from New England who once took a heroic stand against a member of her own party.
Community Voices	2/10/2020	7:50am	5:09	MA	Presidential candidates often prefer to avoid some subjects, but Democrat Deval Patrick and his wife Diane are talking openly about her health.
Community Voices	2/10/2020	7:50am	2:34	MA	There hasn't been much snow this winter, and commentator Robert Chipkin observes that even snowy winters these days don't hold up to those of

his childhood.

Topic	Airdate	Newscast	Duration	State	Summary
Community Voices	2/13/2020	7:50am	3:15	MA	Many people celebrate love by eating sugar on Valentine's Day. Commentator Susan Johnson celebrates the love of eating sugar year-round.
Community Voices	2/13/2020	7:50am5:35	CT		It's been a warm winter but there are still spots where it's stayed cold enough for a sport called ice climbing. Connecticut Public Radio's Patrick Skahill grabbed some rope and ice picks.
Community Voices	3/3/2020	6:45am 8:45am	2:31	MA	A recent study shows that, per capita, West Springfield Massachusetts is 4th in the country for refugee resettlements. The report from APM's "America Amplified" project also showed Springfield in the top 100.
Community Voices	3/16/2020	7:45am	2:57	MA	The oldest church congregation in Pittsfield, Massachusetts, is selling its 22-thousand-square-foot building, reflecting a decline in the city's population and fewer churchgoers.
Community Voices	3/16/2020	7:45am 2:52	MA		Commentator and psychiatric nurse-practitioner Shoshana Marchand has been fielding calls from college-age patients being sent home from campus due to the pandemic. Having lived through a terrifying epidemic when she was their age, Marchand understands their anxieties.

Topic	Airdate	Newscast	Duration	State	Summary
Economic Development	1/30/2020	7:21am	6:14	MA	Despite lofty goals, only a fraction of Massachusetts state construction and related-services contracts go to minorities. But now, some agencies are expanding opportunities for minority businesses.
Economic Development	2/28/2020	7:51 am	3:10	MA	The Berkshire Innovation Center officially opens today. One of its goals: helping companies keep pace with changing technology. And an even bigger goal is attracting talented workers to the area.
Economic Development	3/12/2020	6:40am 8:40am	4:39	MA	As people learn more about the coronavirus, many shoppers are stocking up on groceries--but not everyone has that option.
Economic Development	3/18/2020	6:34am 8:34am	3:19	MA	Many waitstaff, cooks and bartenders in Massachusetts lost their jobs almost overnight as the Governor ordered restaurant to close their dining rooms during the pandemic. Some are shutting down completely, others hope to survive through take-out and delivery.
Economic Development	3/19/2020	5:51am 7:51am	4:03	MA	The threat of Covid-19 has led to a jump-start of the summer season for the Cape and Islands, and that's not sitting well with some residents.

Topic	Airdate	Newscast	Duration	State	Summary
Economic Development	3/23/2020	7:45am 5:40 MA			The closing of schools and businesses in response to the Covid-19 pandemic has had an immediate impact on employment. 20-thousand people filed unemployment claims the day after the closure of restaurants and bars, and while some businesses have closed, others are seeing an increase in demand---or are trying to hold steady.
Economic Development	3/26/2020	6:45am 8:45am	2:26	MA	The Covid-19 outbreak is taking a toll on newspapers in New England, with already-sagging advertising revenues dipping even more and sparking layoffs.
Education	2/7/2020	6:22am 8:22am	3:30	CT	A Harvard study says Hartford's magnet school system is a good model for integration. The reaction in Hartford is less rosy.
Education	3/6/2020	7:50am2:42	CT		A commentary from a public school teacher in Hartford. Tiffany Moyer-Washington says as mandated testing increases, her top priority---helping kids learn---gets harder and harder to do.
Education	3/11/2020	7:50am3:41	MA		Amherst College has told students not to return from spring break, and as the new coronavirus spreads, other nearby schools such as Smith and Mount Holyoke Colleges are

following suit. Faculty and students are grappling with the implications.

Topic	Airdate	Newscast	Duration	State	Summary
Education	3/25/2020	7:34am	8:15	MA	When schools eventually reopen, one problem will remain to be addressed: a shortage of teachers and administrators of color. It's the first of a 3-part series on what school districts are doing, or not doing, to hire and support more educators of color.
Education	3/26/2020	7:51am	6:26	MA	In part 2 of our series on teacher diversity, a look at a pair of issues for which diversity is central: how students of color are disciplined, and what's often called the 'opportunity gap'.
Education	3/27/2020	7:51am	7:11	MA	Studies show numerous barriers faced by black and Latino college students trying to become certified teachers. Part 3 of a series on schools' efforts to diversify teaching ranks and retain more teachers of color.
Energy & Environment	1/14/2020	6:45am 8:45am	4:07	MA	China has stopped accepting contaminated recyclables, meaning that many Western Massachusetts communities now face unexpected expenses for disposing of the materials.
Energy & Environment	1/21/2020	6:34am 8:34am	4:51	ME	Powerful new data collection methods are providing more precise ways to predict where and when toxic 'red tide' algae might bloom in the Gulf of Maine.

Topic	Airdate	Newscast		Duration	State	Summary
Energy & Environment	2/11/2020	6:45am	8:45am	4:04	MA	The EPA says the cleanup of the Housatonic River will be done sooner than expected, but getting the deal done wasn't easy, and not everyone supports it.
Energy & Environment	3/31/2020	7:45am		3:52	MA	With many schools and businesses closed to prevent the spread of coronavirus, fewer cars are on the road, so it's quieter outside. NEPR's Nancy Cohen wondered what that might mean for birds and other animals that are making their own kind of noise this time of year.
Justice, Law & Public Safety	1/8/2020	6:45am	8:45am	4:05	CT	After the Sandy Hook mass shooting in 2012, victims' families sued gunmaker Remington, and after five years of delays the suit is moving forward. The case could offer a window into how the gun industry thinks and operates.
Justice, Law & Public Safety	1/20/2020	6:45am	8:45am	2:27	MA	Massachusetts' highest court heard arguments yesterday involving the way emergency rooms handle psychiatric cases.
Politics & Public Policy	1/2/2020	7:45am	3:28	MA	Among the 3 new mayors taking office in the region is Westfield's Don Humason, who says the narrow margin of his election win---just 100 votes--- won't affect how he will govern.	
Politics & Public Policy	1/3/2020	5:51pm	9:34	MA	TSL: Sports betting; tensions between Springfield city council and	

Mayor Sarno; new mayors take office in region; special election to fill Westfield Senate vacancy

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Politics & Public Policy	1/6/2020	6:45am 8:45am	5:50	MA	BH In 5: Secretary of State Bill Galvin says Springfield is a tough place to get an accurate census count, and a very important place for the census; House Republicans push back on proposals for new revenue-raising measures to fund transportation; Governor Baker supports the 'Transportation Climate Initiative,' but New Hampshire has withdrawn its support and Vermont's governor is voicing concerns.
Politics & Public Policy	1/10/2020	5:50pm	9:39	MA	TSL: Gay Men's Chorus blocked by diocese; Brattleboro Retreat threatened with closure; Women's March slated for Pioneer Valley; broadband in the Berkshires; a look at the 2020 elections
Politics & Public Policy	1/13/2020	6:45am 8:45am	4:50	MA	It looks likely that President Trump's impeachment trial will prove to be a big campaign obstacle for Elizabeth Warren, Bernie Sanders, and the other members of the Senate vying for the White House. That's because in the crucial days leading up to the first caucuses and primaries, they'll likely be sitting as jurors on Capitol Hill.

Topic	Airdate	Newscast	Duration	State	Summary
Politics & Public Policy	1/17/2020	5:50pm	9:01	MA	TSL: Recycling problems and community costs; gambling revenues up in Boston, down elsewhere; Red Sox woes; 10 years since high-profile suicide by bullied high-school student
Politics & Public Policy	1/20/2020	6:45am 8:45am	5:30	MA	BH In 5: The governor's budget is revealed this week; state health expenditures expected to rise; a housing bill may be on the horizon; and incumbent Senator Ed Markey now has only one Democratic challenger, Congressman Joe Kennedy.
Politics & Public Policy	1/22/2020	6:45am 8:45am	3:56	MA	In his State of the Commonwealth address, Gov. Charlie Baker promised more money for the MBTA and has a new goal regarding greenhouse-gas emissions.
Politics & Public Policy	1/23/2020	5:45am 7:45am	5:16	CT	A recent federal report showed that homelessness had declined by 24 percent in Connecticut in 2018. Still, Gov. Ned Lamont has announced an increase in funding for homelessness prevention. Kiley Gosselin, head of the non-profit "Partnership For Strong Communities," addressed the issue in an op-ed in the Hartford Courant.

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Politics & Public Policy	1/24/2020	5:50pm	9:35	MA	TSL: MGM gets a new boss---will revenue rise? TD bank closing branch in Springfield's Mason Square; Massachusetts governor sets climate goals; should Connecticut have a full-time legislature?
Politics & Public Policy	1/27/2020	6:45am 8:45am	5:26	MA	BH In 5: Unpacking Governor Baker's "State of the Commonwealth" address---will western regional transit agencies share in the \$135 million proposed for transportation? Environmental activists are skeptical about the governor's push for net-zero greenhouse gas emissions by 2050; a pending bill would allow driver's licenses to be issued to immigrants in the country illegally, and it now has the support of a police chiefs' association.
Politics & Public Policy	1/29/2020	7:21am	6:22	MA	A study shows that minority contractors are getting a smaller share of Massachusetts state contracts than was the case 10 or 20 years ago.
Politics & Public Policy	1/31/2020	5:50pm	9:40	MA	TSL: Retirements mean turnover in the Hampden County delegation on Beacon Hill; Mass copes with flu and coronavirus; Governor Baker pushes for transit funding.
Politics & Public Policy	1/31/2020	6:34am 8:34am	2:36	MA	The PVRTA says Governor Baker's budget proposal came up several million dollars short in funding for transit agencies outside the

Boston area.

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Politics & Public Policy	1/31/2020	7:45am	4:46	MA	With Iowa caucuses just 3 days away, how do the Senators running for President stay visible in the state while being tied down in impeachment proceedings? WBUR's Anthony Brooks is following Elizabeth Warren's campaign in Iowa---without Warren.
Politics & Public Policy	2/3/2020	6:45am 8:45am	5:09	MA	BH In 5: Are impeachment hearings a distraction on Beacon Hill?; Governor Baker's budget is being analyzed and among other things, casino revenue and bowhunting provisions are being questioned; legislative seniority for western Mass will be impacted by incumbents deciding to retire.
Politics & Public Policy	2/6/2020	6:45am 8:45am	3:30	NH	With less than a week to go before the New Hampshire primary, two former Massachusetts governors--Republican Bill Weld and Democrat Deval Patrick---are plugging away on their long-shot bids for the White House.
Politics & Public Policy	2/7/2020	6:22am 8:22am	3:20	NH	With primary day approaching, Buttigieg surges in New Hampshire, Biden slips, a poll shows 11% still undecided.
Politics & Public Policy	2/7/2020	5:50pm	9:19	MA	TSL: MassDOT rail study; TD Bank and Mason square deal; Iowa caucuses and impact on New Hampshire

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Politics & Public Policy	2/10/2020	6:45am 8:45am	5:16	MA	BH In 5: State officials await feedback after pegging the cost of east-west rail expansion at between 2 billion and 25 billion dollars; budget hearings begin this week, so what can we expect from a session of the Joint Ways & Means Committee?
Politics & Public Policy	2/14/2020	5:50pm	7:39	MA	TSL: Housatonic River cleanup deal announced; New Hampshire primary is tough on Massachusetts' 3 presidential hopefuls; State attorney-general goes after Juul e-cigarette company; Red Sox trade Mookie Betts
Politics & Public Policy	2/17/2020	6:45am 8:45am	5:29	MA	BH In 5: A proposed Medicaid rule change could blow a huge hole in the state budget; what's the status of 21 pending bills dealing with gaming or sports betting? And what's going on during school vacation week at the State House?
Politics & Public Policy	2/18/2020	6:45am 8:45am	3:10	MA	There's been much debate about a new study from the state Department of Transportation on expanded east-west rail service, suggesting that the cheapest option would attract about 36 daily riders while the costliest might have 800. Those figures have been widely criticized by rail supporters.

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Politics & Public Policy	2/21/2020	4:50pm	9:28	MA	TSL: Mass. lawmaker arrested; Lamont's toll plan crumbles; MGM casino sees revenue bump; Hands-free cellphone law takes effect
Politics & Public Policy	2/24/2020	6:45am 8:45am	5:40	MA	BH In 5: It's now illegal to use a cellphone while driving in Mass.; lawmakers debate red-light cameras; early voting has begun for the presidential primary; and the GOP Senate candidate field is expanding.
Politics & Public Policy	2/28/2020	6:45am 8:45am	4:54	MA	Ahead of Tuesday's primary, Vermont Sen. Bernie Sanders, the Democratic front-runner, holds a campaign rally tonight in Springfield. Less attention is being focused on the GOP primary, where former Governor Bill Weld is challenging President Trump. Earlier this week he was endorsed by the Boston Globe, and Weld says that was not a surprise.
Politics & Public Policy	3/2/2020	6:45am 8:45am	5:26	MA	BH In 5: The Super Tuesday primary features some down-ballot contests in Massachusetts, with five vacancies in the state legislature---and it appears that at least ten other lawmakers won't seek reelection. Is this more turnover than usual? State lawmakers included money in a supplemental spending bill to deal with the coronavirus. And members of the legislature's Ways & Means Committee visit

Pittsfield---how could this road trip influence upcoming budget discussions?

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Politics & Public Policy	3/9/2020	6:35am 8:35am	5:45	MA	BH In 5: questions remain about social equity and where the profits go from the Massachusetts marijuana retail industry; as Covid-19 spreads, are Beacon Hill lawmakers still sealing deals with firm handshakes or have they transitioned to elbow taps?
Politics & Public Policy	3/11/2020	4:50pm5:02		MA	With Massachusetts Senator Elizabeth Warren's presidential campaign suspended, members of her campaign team are deciding what to do next. Jossie Valentin, director of the Warren campaign in Western Massachusetts, says she wants to concentrate on down-ballot races.
Politics & Public Policy	3/16/2020	6:45am 8:45am	3:48	MA	BH In 5: Governor Baker has closed schools statewide at the urging of the state's largest teachers' union; large gatherings are banned, restaurants closed, many other businesses affected---will lawmakers act quickly on a relief bill? And what does the Baker administration say about the status of testing for the Covid-19 virus?

Topic	Airdate	Newscast	Duration	State	Summary
Politics & Public Policy	3/23/2020	8:45am	5:00	MA	BH In 5: The Covid-19 crisis has led to shelter-in-place and similar orders, although Governor Baker has resisted issuing a statewide order; at least one prison inmate has tested positive for the virus, triggering worries about its spread in tight living spaces; will special state elections be delayed?
Politics & Public Policy	3/25/2020	6:34am 8:34am	3:06	MA	Gov. Baker's order closing nonessential Massachusetts businesses took effect yesterday, but the definition of "essential" could change.
Politics & Public Policy	3/30/2020	6:45am 8:45am	5:40	MA	BH In 5: Do new Covid-19 test results offer confidence or confusion; tax filing deadlines extended to July; Senate bill would help restaurants; the state may set up a website as a clearinghouse for protective-equipment donations; the state's public health commissioner tests positive for Covid-19
Public Health	2/21/2020	6:45am 8:45am	4:45	MA	It's flu season and recent research suggests that changes in employment status can actually affect the spread of the flu. Study co-author and economics professor Erik Nesson explains.
Public Health	2/25/2020	7:34am	7:48	MA	Health leaders are developing ways of getting help for drug users. In one type of outreach gaining

traction around
Massachusetts, police
officers collaborate with
public health departments.
NEPR's Karen Brown looks
at the advantages and
challenges of this approach.

Public Health 2/26/2020 7:51am6:20

MA

Hampshire County's DART
program trains police to
put away the handcuffs
when dealing with opioid
users, and offer help
instead---food, shelter, a
ride to detox. A look at the
role of 'recovery coaching'
in this approach.

Topic	Airdate	Newscast	Duration	State	Summary
Public Health	2/27/2020	7:51 am	7:08	MA	<p>Almost half of Massachusetts communities have launched collaborations between police and public health agencies to address the opioid crisis.</p> <p>Hampshire County's "DART" program trains police to stop arresting drug users and offer them help instead.</p>
Public Health	2/28/2020	7:51 am	4:04	MA	<p>One program offers a new approach to the opioid crisis in Massachusetts, emphasizing help and intervention over arrests.</p> <p>But police in the largest city in Hampden County--- Springfield---are not taking part, and there is little information about what they are doing for overdose survivors.</p>
Public Health	3/3/2020	6:45am 8:45am	2:59	MA	<p>Former addict Cory Paquette of Belchertown, Massachusetts, volunteers with the Drug Addiction & Recovery Team, a collaboration between the Northampton Massachusetts health department and police across the region. He speaks about the day he turned away from drugs.</p>
Public Health	3/6/2020	7:50am	3:02	MA	<p>State officials say hundreds of Massachusetts residents have stayed in their homes to avoid public contact over the past two weeks, a precaution some people are taking in case they're infected with the new coronavirus.</p>

Topic	Airdate	Newscast	Duration	State	Summary
Public Health	3/10/2020	7:50am	2:02	MA	The number of confirmed or presumed-positive cases of Covid-19 in Massachusetts has grown to 41. Five of those are in Berkshire County, where the town of Clarksburg has decided to close its school and other buildings.
Public Health	3/18/2020	6:34am 8:34am	4:50	MA	Limiting contact to avoid Covid-19 infection is especially important for seniors, whose immune systems may have more trouble fighting the disease. Elders and those who care for them have to weigh the benefits of social isolation with the cost.
Public Health	3/24/2020	5:51am 7:51am	2:43	MA	Many in the community are offering to hand-sew masks for health-care providers during the medical equipment shortage---but some Western Massachusetts hospitals are wary of using them.
Public Health	3/25/2020	6:34am 8:34am	4:18	MA	Social distancing guidelines in place during the Covid-19 pandemic have limited the sort of in-person interaction that is key to the success of addiction recovery programs. Peggy Vezina of the Recover Project in Greenfield, Massachusetts, outlines the challenges posed by the new guidelines.

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Public Health	3/26/2020	6:45am 8:45am	1:37	CT	As hospitals, doctors, and nurses confront the Covid-19 pandemic, another set of health care professionals are also on the front lines: pharmacists.
Public Health	3/27/2020	5:50pm	9:23	MA	TSL: A discussion of how the state is coping with the Covid-19 pandemic.
Public Health	3/31/2020	6:45am 8:45am	4:52	MA	As many as 11 residents of the Holyoke Soldiers' Home have died in recent days, potentially all from Covid-19. That's led to an abrupt change of leadership at the residential, nursing and outpatient facility for veterans, which is run by the state of Massachusetts. News of the outbreak has shocked local officials and appears to have caught state officials off guard as well.

