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WAIC, Springfield, Massachusetts

Issues/Programs List

July 1, 2017 through September 30, 2017

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

Local Reports in <i>Morning Edition</i> , <i>All Things Considered</i> and <i>Weekend Edition</i>					
Topic	Date	Time	Length	State	Summary
Arts & Culture	7/5	6:33 a.m. 8:33 a.m.	6:01	MA	In 1960, a famous literature professor at Smith College was arrested for having gay pornographic materials in his Northampton, Massachusetts apartment. Four decades later, that scandal was the basis of a nonfiction book. Now the story is getting a new telling -- an operatic one -- on the very college campus where the original events took place.
Arts & Culture	7/7	6:45 a.m. 8:45 a.m.	4:11	MA	We continue our summer fiction series this morning...with a form of literature that, granted, is not strictly made-up. Naila Moreira is a science and environmental journalist who also writes poems. Her new book of poetry is immersed in the natural world -- she wrote it while living alone in a farmhouse apartment on the Mill River in Leeds, Massachusetts. In a conversation with New England Public Radio's Karen Brown, Moreira starts by reading the title poem of her book, named Water Street, after the road she lived on.
Arts & Culture	7/14	6:45 a.m. 8:45 a.m.	4:35	MA	In Zane Kotker's latest book, three widows in their early 70's deal with loneliness, fear of death, a condo association and internet dating. "Goodnight, Ladies" is a novella -- 111 pages -- and the latest pick in our summer fiction series. Kotker sat down with New England Public Radio's Sam Hudzik, and read a section of her book, as the characters finish a monthly book-club meeting.

Arts & Culture	7/20	7:33 a.m. 4:50 p.m.	6:23	MA	With summer in full swing, one of the nation's largest Shakespeare festivals is celebrating a big anniversary this year. Reporter Rebecca Sheir takes us to Lenox, Massachusetts, for the story of Shakespeare and Company's four decades of dramatics...on and off the stage.
Arts & Culture	7/21	6:45 a.m. 8:36 a.m.	4:22	MA	The next book in our summer fiction series took Rowe, Massachusetts author James Carse five years to create, from start "to publish". In his who-done-it novel, "P.h. Death: The Puzzle Murders", the perp creates puzzles, and a group of academics solves them to learn the identity of the victim.
Arts & Culture	7/28	6:45 a.m. 8:45 a.m.	3:56	MA	When Springfield federal judge Michael Ponsor semi-retired after 3 decades on the bench, he started to enjoy two privileges of part time work -- he could choose the type of cases he wanted, and he had a lot more time for his other professional passion -- fiction writing. A few years ago, his first legal thriller -- The Hanging Judge -- reached the New York Times Bestseller List. His second -- The One-Eyed Judge -- features the same main character, Judge David Norcross, who Ponsor insists is only loosely based on himself. In the latest installment of our summer fiction series, Ponsor tells New England Public Radio's Karen Brown he wanted to do more than just tell a gripping story.

Arts & Culture	8/2	5:44 p.m.	3:58	MA	<p>With the second half of Major League Baseball's season now fully underway, things are starting to get interesting in the American League East. The Boston Red Sox, who've been in first place for most of the season, are just a half-game ahead of the rival New York Yankees. Both teams added some players before Monday's trade deadline. We checked in with Jen McCaffrey, who covers the Red Sox for MassLive. She says that just hours before the deadline, the Sox acquired reliever Addison Reed from the Mets to bolster an injury-riddled pitching staff. She says two other notable additions have already started to make their presence felt, including utility player Eduardo Nunez.</p>
Arts & Culture	8/4	6:33 a.m. 8:33 a.m.	4:16	MA	<p>Callie is a 7th grader in New York who spends a week cutting school, visiting museums and uncovering family secrets about the death of her gay uncle. She's the main character in "Apartment 1986", a new YA novel by Northampton, Massachusetts writer Lisa Papademetriou. To kick off this year's back-to-school series, the author sat down with New England Public Radio's Karen Brown. Papademetriou started by reading from the book's first section, when we meet the exuberant narrator.</p>
Arts & Culture	8/11	6:45 a.m. 8:45 a.m.	4:10	MA	<p>"Little Pig Saves the Ship". The children's picture book is the next pick in our annual back-to-school book series. The main character is too young to attend sailing camp with the rest of his family, yet still manages to have an adventure of his own. I sat down with author and illustrator David Hyde Costello in his Amherst, Massachusetts studio and asked him why we are reading about a little pig.</p>

Arts & Culture	8/18	6:45 a.m. 8:45 a.m.	3:26	MA	We continue our back-to-school book series today with "A.J. and the Magic Kite" -- a picture book about the contributions of African-American inventors. It was written by Chicopee, Massachusetts author Crystal Senter and illustrated by her mother, Janice Treese-Senter. In the story, a black boy is bullied by classmates who call African-Americans "worthless". Crystal Senter tells New England Public Radio's Karen Brown...the incident was based on something that happened to her own son in kindergarten.
Arts & Culture	8/25	6:45 a.m. 8:45 a.m.	4:14	MA	By the late 19th century, Hebrew was a language spoken only in prayer. But one man in Jerusalem -- Ben Yehuda -- went to great lengths to bring it back into common use among Jews around the world. Amherst, Massachusetts poet and author Rich Michelson described those efforts in his latest kids' book -- "The Language of Angels". For our back-to-school book series, Michelson tells NEPR's Sam Hudzik that Ben Yehuda made this his life's work.
Arts & Culture	8/30	7:45 a.m.	4:21	CT	In a small church in the shoreline town of Stonington, Connecticut, a massive musical project is underway. Calvary Episcopal Church is installing a new organ. The price tag? More than a half-million dollars. The organ took about eight months to create at the Tennessee shop of builder Richards Fowkes and Company. Then it was carefully disassembled -- and the tens of thousands of parts were trucked north for construction.

Arts & Culture	8/31	6:45 a.m. 8:45 a.m.	4:14	CT	<p>It's been quite a year for Hartford's minor league baseball team, after an inaugural season full of stadium blunders. Nonetheless, tonight the AA Yard Goats wrap up their final home-stand of the season -- with attendance approaching 400-thousand for the year -- the second best in their league. First, though, some history. The Yard Goats? Two years ago, they played 12 miles away in New Britain as the Rock Cats. And last year, they had to play all of their home games on the road, because their 71-million dollar stadium wasn't finished. To get a perspective on the team from a press-box, literally, I met up with Don Amore, a sports reporter for The Hartford Courant.</p>
Arts & Culture	9/1	6:45 a.m. 8:45 a.m.	3:49	MA	<p>Amherst, Massachusetts author Catherine Newman set her first middle-grade novel, "One Mixed-Up Night", in an unlikely setting -- the giant Swedish furniture store IKEA. It's narrated by a spunky sixth grader named Frankie -- as Newman reads here. Those kids were inspired by a 1960's children's book called "From the Mixed Up Files of Misses Basil E. Frankweiler". In it...two kids in New York spend a week secretly living in the Metropolitan Museum of Art. As part of our back-to-school book series...Catherine Newman tells New England Public Radio's Karen Brown that plot appealed to her own childhood imagination.</p>
Arts & Culture	9/8	6:45 a.m. 8:45 a.m.	4:28	CT	<p>We wrap up our back to school book series this morning with a tale of good versus evil. Imagine a chaotic, unjust world, where society's least powerful are forced to literally eat the sins of the powerful. One of these "sin-eaters" -- a boy named Taj -- becomes the unlikely hero in this fantasy -- "Beasts Made of Night". New Haven author Tochi Onyebuchi tells New England Public Radio's Tema Silk how his work with incarcerated people influenced his writing.</p>

Arts & Culture	9/15	6:45 a.m. 8:45 a.m.	4:08	NE	After a horrific season opener, the New England Patriots are looking to get back on track this Sunday against the New Orleans Saints. We check in with MassLive sports producer Kevin Dillon to see whether last week's loss will take some of the "undefeated season" hype and pressure off the team moving forward.
Arts & Culture	9/19	7:45 a.m. 5:54 p.m.	3:43 4:15	MA	Since it opened in June....The Doctor Seuss Museum has attracted thousands of visitors to Springfield. Boosters say it's a win for the local economy...and a fitting tribute to Ted Geisel...the city's famous son. But critics have complained that earlier, controversial work by Geisel was completely left out of the exhibits. As New England Public Radio's Alden Bourne reports, the museum has not addressed those concerns.
Community Voices	7/19	6:47 a.m. 8:45 a.m.	1:58	MA	After living both in the Mountain West and Europe, commentator Steve Shultis settled in his native Springfield. Out west, Shultis says, he observed a sprawling, car-dependent way of life. He far preferred Europe's walkable, bike-able cities. So he had and his then-wife put down stakes in Springfield's downtown. He's had no regrets.
Community Voices	7/31	5:55 p.m.	2:05	MA	A few years ago, commentator Grace Lin joined the Diversity Committee of her child's preschool. When one of the members asked whether race really needed to be addressed with young children, Lin instantly knew her answer.

Community Voices	8/3	6:47 a.m. 8:47 a.m.	2:19	MA	Friends tell commentator Martha Ackmann she has odd pastimes. One of them is participating in literary marathons. That's when great literary works are read out-loud communally -- straight through -- from first line to last...and sometimes around-the-clock. Martha Ackmann lives in Leverett, Massachusetts. She's working on a book about Emily Dickinson.
Community Voices	8/16	6:47 a.m. 8:47 a.m.	2:04	MA	Commentator Aurora Rainette says one of the things she loves about working on farms is watching life take hold and transform. But sometimes crops fail...or animals are lost before their time. And for Rainette, that can really sting. Rainette works as a farm-hand at several farms around the Pioneer Valley. She lives in Cummington, Massachusetts.
Community Voices	8/17	5:56 a.m. 7:56 a.m.	2:12	MA	Every once in a while the wheels of progress turn so swiftly you don't realize you've come full circle. This happened recently to commentator Robert Chipkin, while he watched a TV commercial that came on during the news. Chipkin is a writer and columnist who lives in Springfield.
Community Voices	8/24	6:45 a.m. 8:45 a.m.	2:13	MA	Earlier this month, renowned cookbook editor Judith Jones died in her Vermont home at age 93. Jones is celebrated for editing "Mastering the Art of French Cooking" and introducing Julia Child to the world. Commentator Martha Ackmann once judged a cooking contest with Jones in Western Massachusetts. Ackmann lives in Leverett, Massachusetts. Her new book on Emily Dickinson will be published next year.

Community Voices	9/27	6:36 a.m. 8:36 a.m.	2:06	MA	This past summer, commentator Bruce Watson hit the road. He drove a support vehicle for seven bicyclists, who started out from Puget Sound and went up and over the Rockies, across Montana, the Great Plains and all the way up to Boston. While on this tour, Watson also searched for some reassurance about our country. He says he found it.
Economic Development	7/12	5:52 a.m. 7:52 a.m.	6:16	RI	Remember Rhode Island's disastrous deal with former Red Sox pitcher Curt Schilling? The state invested 75 million taxpayer dollars in Schilling's video game company -- 38 Studios -- and lost it all before a lawsuit clawed back most of the money. It was one of the worst financial decisions in state history. Yet the company that served as Rhode Island's financial advisor on the deal has continued doing business throughout the state. Rhode Island Public Radio's Ian Donniss reports.
Economic Development	7/13	6:45 a.m. 8:45 a.m.	4:02	MA	The Pioneer Valley Transit Authority has wrapped up a series of public hearings on proposed bus route cuts -- or service reductions. The PVTA Advisory Board is preparing to announce its final decisions next week, after hearing from outraged riders -- and area colleges. In the middle of all this -- the PVTA's new Administrator, Sandra Sheehan. I asked her to describe her first month on the job. The PVTA Advisory Board will finalize bus service cuts at a meeting next Wednesday. Changes to the schedule will go into effect in the fall.

Economic Development	7/17	6:45 a.m. 8:45 a.m.	2:57	MA	PVTA bus route cuts could be announced this week. That's after the Transit Authority's state appropriation came in more than a million and half dollars less than expected. Protests are planned in response and the Five Colleges -- which have pumped millions of dollars into the PVTA have warned the transit authority -- they might seek bus services from another provider. The state budget is sitting on Governor Charlie Baker's desk. To find out if Western Massachusetts' transit woes are making any ripples on Beacon Hill -- we turn as we do most Mondays -- to State House News Service reporter Matt Murphy.
Economic Development	7/20	6:47 a.m. 8:47 a.m.	1:29	NE	A new study demonstrates a key role immigrants fill in the New England economy. The study by the Bipartisan Research and Advocacy Group "New American Economy" shows immigrants are more likely than U.S.-born workers to pick up night and weekend shifts in a number of fields. It's the case across many industries that require a broad range of skills...but may be most noticeable in education and training, where immigrants are 23-percent more likely than U.S.-born workers to take those "off hours". WBUR's Shannon Dooling has the details.
Economic Development	7/25	6:45 a.m. 8:45 a.m.	1:38	CT	Connecticut officials have announced the operator of a new commuter rail line between New Haven and Springfield. As WNPR's Ryan Caron King reports, officials also said the launch of that service will be delayed into mid-2018.
Economic Development	8/3	6:45 a.m. 8:45 a.m.	1:32	MA	A manufacturer in Holyoke, Massachusetts -- which first opened its doors during the Civil War -- is auctioning off everything under its roof today. New England Public Radio's Alden Bourne reports the company is a casualty of a changing industry.

Economic Development	8/28 8/29	4:44 p.m. 7:45 a.m.	3:59 3:35	MA	A former Boston city councilor is offering a suggestion he says could help his city...and Springfield. Mike Ross wrote a column in Boston magazine saying Massachusetts should auction off its historic statehouse, so it could become condos. And he'd make Springfield the new capital city. I called Ross up to ask if he was being serious. He says there was some hyperbole in his column.
Economic Development	9/26	6:36 a.m. 8:36 a.m.	4:10	MA	You won't be able to find a cold can or freshly poured draft of Tree House beer anywhere except where it's made. Right in Charlton, Massachusetts. Customers travel near and far to stand in long lines for a taste of Tree House's New England style India pale ales. But after investing in a new 55-thousand square foot brewery, will the lines last? New England Public Radio's Carson McGrath reports.
Economic Development	9/28 9/29	5:50 p.m. 7:35 a.m.	5:03	MA	This time next year, the nearly billion dollar MGM casino in Springfield will be open. That's the company's expectation, and it's certainly the hope of the state's top casino regulator, Steve Crosby. To talk about that timeline and some lingering issues related to the casino, New England Public Radio's Kari Njiri sat down with Crosby...and started by asking if he was confident a September 2018 opening is possible.
Education	7/11	6:23 a.m. 8:23 a.m.	6:08	MA	Even with full scholarships, some students find they can't get the full college experience because of money. Some schools in Massachusetts are beginning to take steps to address the challenge. WBUR's Fred Thys reports.

Education	7/20	6:45 p.m. 8:45 a.m.	2:09	MA	One school district for all 15 thousand of Berkshire County's School children. That's what an advisory panel of educators, local officials and business leaders are recommending. They commissioned a new study that says this approach could solve a lot of the problems schools are facing. New England Public Radio's Adam Frenier reports.
Education	9/22	5:52 a.m. 7:52 a.m.	5:38	MA	Every morning, 11-hundred students mostly wearing maroon polos and tan slacks funnel through the front doors of the High School of Commerce in Springfield. But about 60 students -- in a different uniform -- use a separate entrance at the school. Reporter Rachel Cramer, from our partners at WGBH and The Ground Truth Project, brings us the story of the new school inside Springfield's lowest-performing high school...and what it means for the students there.
Education	9/27	6:38 a.m. 8:38 a.m.	1:58	MA	80 percent of Holyoke, Massachusetts public school students are of Puerto Rican descent. After the island experienced extensive damage from two hurricanes, the district is expecting an influx of new students. New England Public Radio's Jill Kaufman reports.
Energy/ Environment	7/19	6:45 a.m. 8:45 a.m.	2:15	MA	Construction continues on a New York-to-Connecticut natural gas pipeline, running through Otis State Forest in Sandisfield, Massachusetts. Despite work being well underway, there are some who believe the project -- which has been the source of a legal and regulatory battle -- can still be halted. And a few still protest every day, on private land only yards from the construction site. New England Public Radio's Adam Frenier paid a visit.

Energy/ Environment	7/26	5:45 a.m. 7:45 a.m.	4:45	VT	New England has been encouraging solar development for years, but Vermont has taken the lead. The state has a small population -- but big goals for renewable energy. And that's attracting national solar companies, which are now competing with Vermont's many homegrown solar businesses.
Energy/ Environment	7/27	6:45 a.m. 8:45 a.m.	3:29	CT	Preserving farmland can be a struggle, which means some farmers looking to make ends meet are now turning to another harvest: the sun. But as Patrick Skahill from WNPR reports, solar energy is providing many farmers with new opportunities...and questions. This story is part of the energy reporting project, "The Big Switch" -- from the New England News Collaborative.
Energy/ Environment	8/8	6:45 a.m. 8:45 a.m.	4:27	MA	A play by Massachusetts to inject more renewable power into its electricity mix could reshape the entire region's energy landscape. Dozens of developers are competing to offer Massachusetts the best price for long-term contracts to supply clean energy to hundreds of thousands of homes. But many of the projects also face another challenge -- convincing residents of northern New England it's in their interest to host the Bay State's extension cord.
Energy/ Environment	8/9	5:33 a.m. 7:51 a.m.	7:17	MA	Prominent coastal geologists say the first truly global disaster resulting from climate change will come from rising sea levels. In Massachusetts, the rising sea will mean more frequent flooding, more severe storms and dramatic change. As part of the series "Massachusetts Climate: A Season of Change", WBUR's David Boeri takes us to a place that's on a faster track to where we too may be heading.

Energy/ Environment	8/11	4:50 p.m.	7:18	MA	It's official.....last year was the hottest on record for the planet...and the long term forecast for New England calls for a lot of warmer temperatures, much higher seas and more precipitation. The release of greenhouse gases into the atmosphere, from the burning of fossil fuels, is disrupting the world's climate. But Massachusetts is fighting back. Today, state environmental officials released a new regulatory road map designed to guide the state to meet ambitious cuts in climate changing emissions. The regulations will have far reaching consequences for every sector of the state's economy.
Energy/ Environment	8/23	6:45 a.m. 8:45 a.m.	4:17	MA	Low income communities of color are disproportionately affected by the consequences of climate change -- think New Orleans and Hurricane Katrina. These areas suffer from poor air quality, increasing temperatures and extreme weather. In many of those same communities, residents already live among health hazards like fuel storage units...and the toxic remains that come with them. In the city of Chelsea, Massachusetts residents bear these burdens while much of New England benefits. WBUR's Shannon Dooling explains.
Energy/ Environment	9/5	5:51 a.m. 7:51 a.m.	6:10	MA	A new casino going up along the Mystic River -- near Boston -- is being used as an opportunity to reshape the industrial look of the waterway. It's also being used as a way to prepare for the effects of climate change. WBUR's Jack Lepiarz reports.

Energy/ Environment	9/12	5:53 a.m. 7:53 a.m.	4:15	VT	The rivers and streams of New England are littered with thousands of dams. Many of them were used to produce the energy that sparked the industry -- but now they're only clogging the waterways. For many reasons, it's hard to remove large dams, so some conservationists are turning their attention to smaller dams, many of them privately owned, that are scattered across New England. As part of our energy project, "The Big Switch, Vermont Public Radio's Kathleen Masterson has the story.
Energy/ Environment	9/20	6:45 a.m. 8:45 a.m.	3:57	MA	New England is losing 65 acres of forest each day. That's the conclusion of a new study spearheaded by a Harvard University forest research group. And as the New England News Collaborative's Fred Bever reports, the authors say the region could lose more than a million acres of forest cover over the next half-century.
Energy/ Environment	9/28	6:38 a.m. 8:38 a.m.	1:21	NE	As Puerto Rico begins a slow recovery from hurricane Maria's destruction, many Puerto Ricans in New England are struggling to find ways to help their family members in need of food and water. WNPR's Ryan Caron King reports.

Justice, Law & Public Safety	7/14	7:45 a.m.	3:29	MA	We're beginning to see the effect of the U.S. Supreme Court's decision upholding much of President Donald Trump's executive order restricting immigration and refugees. The U.S. has now hit the Trump-imposed annual cap of 50-thousand refugees. There are exceptions carved out by the Supreme Court -- but details remain in flux. This has led to confusion and frustration locally among refugee resettlement agencies and residents who volunteered to assist them. Kathryn Buckley Brawner of Catholic Charities in Springfield tells NEPR's Kari Njiri this uncertainty extends to a group of refugees that had been scheduled to arrive in Northampton.
Justice, Law & Public Safety	7/25	6:47 a.m. 8:47 a.m.	1:44	MA	Local law enforcement cannot detain someone based solely on a request from federal immigration officials. That's the ruling today from the highest court in Massachusetts. The decision on so-called ICE detainers comes at a time when the involvement of local police in enforcing federal immigration policies is under extra scrutiny. WBUR's Shannon Dooling reports.
Justice, Law & Public Safety	8/14 8/15	5:44 p.m. 7:51 a.m.	3:59 3:37	MA	75 years ago tomorrow, a military transport plane crashed in a remote section of Peru, Massachusetts, killing 16 of the servicemen on board. The victims will be remembered in a ceremony marking the anniversary -- as will the story of how this tiny Berkshire County town rallied to help in the rescue.
Justice, Law & Public Safety	8/15	7:53 a.m.	2:12	MA	Following the fatal violence at a white supremacist gathering in Charlottesville, Virginia, safety officials in Boston are preparing for weekend demonstrations on Boston Common. But they admit they're unsure just what to expect. That's partly because city officials have been unable to contact organizers of a planned "free speech" rally. WBUR's Steve Brown reports.

Justice, Law & Public Safety	8/25	4:53 p.m.	4:12	MA	Four years ago, a chemist with the state drug lab in Amherst, Massachusetts was arrested for stealing drugs for herself and tampering with evidence. Sonja Farak's case came on the heels of another scandal in Eastern Massachusetts, in which state chemist Annie Dookhan was convicted of evidence tampering. This week, two reporters for the Daily Hampshire Gazette -- Amanda Drane and Emily Cutts -- looked into a scathing report by Judge Richard Carey. In it, he accuses prosecutors of misconduct when investigating the fallout of Farak's case. I asked them how the two drug lab cases were dealt with differently. Cutts starts by telling me how much effort went into the first investigation.
Justice, Law & Public Safety	9/13	5:44 p.m.	3:00	NH	Officials in Claremont, New Hampshire say they want to have more conversations in the city about how to prevent violent and race-based attacks in the future. That's after news broke last week about an attempted hanging of a bi-racial boy by local teenagers. About 100 people gathered in a park outside city hall last night for a vigil in response. New Hampshire Public Radio's Britta Greene reports.
Justice, Law & Public Safety	9/27 9/28	5:40 p.m. 7:52 a.m.	5:11	NH	In Claremont, New Hampshire an alleged racially motivated incident between teenagers and a younger, biracial boy has shaken the community in recent weeks. The victim's family says it's an open-and-shut case of racism. The teenager's family says the kids were playing with a rope and climbing trees when things went tragically wrong. They say it was not the attempted-lynching that some are making it out to be. The incident has similarly divided the community as a whole, as New England Public Radio's Britta Greene reports.

Politics/ Public Policy	7/3	6:45 a.m. 8:45 a.m.	3:50	MA	Lawmakers have had a busy few weeks on Beacon Hill tying up loose ends and dealing with the budget and marijuana policy issues -- all leading up to the Fourth of July holiday. The session began slowly and quietly -- that was underlined in a Boston Business Journal editorial last week about how activists sometimes threaten to launch a ballot initiative as a way to motivate lawmakers into action. One measure - to raise the minimum wage to fifteen dollars an hour - has yet to be taken up the legislature. As we do most Mondays we turn to State House News Service reporter Matt Murphy. I asked him what's the likely pathway for a minimum wage increase.....via legislation or ballot box?
Politics/ Public Policy	7/7	5:50 p.m.	7:32	MA	THE SHORT LIST: Massachusetts overdue budget/marijuana law, Red Sox atop AL East at All-Star break
Politics/ Public Policy	7/10	6:45 a.m. 8:45 a.m.	4:27	MA	Last Friday, House and Senate leaders voted on a compromise version of the state budget that reduces spending by about \$600 million in the new fiscal year. Now that the budget has been passed along to the governor's desk, as House Speaker Bob DeLeo ordered - will the talk now be allowed to shift back to marijuana? To find out, as we do most Mondays, we turn to State House News Service reporter Matt Murphy.
Politics/ Public Policy	7/14	5:50 p.m.	7:49	MA	THE SHORT LIST: Rail research left out of budget, automatic voter registration, death of Alan Sisitsky

Politics/ Public Policy	7/21	8:33 a.m.	1:37	CT	Connecticut governor Dannel Malloy has rallied behind a Norwalk mother who was supposed to be deported to Guatemala yesterday. WSHU's Cassandra Basler reports that Malloy and one of Nury Chavarria's four U.S.-born children spoke out against immigration policies that break up families, last night.
Politics/ Public Policy	7/21	5:50 p.m.	7:42	MA	THE SHORT LIST – a discussion with journalists and media professionals of the major issues in the news of our region
Politics/ Public Policy	7/24	6:45 a.m. 8:45 a.m.	4:14	MA	State lawmakers will be taking a closer look at the line-item vetoes made last week by Massachusetts Governor Charlie Baker before he signed the state's overdue 40-point-2 billion dollar budget into law. A lot of the 320 million dollars of vetoes stem from cuts the Governor made to Mass-Health, in the hopes of getting his full package of healthcare reforms enacted. To find out what's next, we check in - as we do most Mondays - with State House News Service reporter Matt Murphy.
Politics/ Public Policy	7/31	6:45 a.m. 8:45 a.m.	3:52	MA	Last Friday, Massachusetts Governor Charlie Baker signed into law changes to the state's voter-approved recreational marijuana law. With this one in the books, there's a lot to do before retail sales of pot become a reality next summer. And much of that work will fall on the office of State Treasurer Deb Goldberg. As part of our regular Monday check-in on Beacon Hill...New England Public Radio's Adam Frenier asked Statehouse reporter Matt Murphy to describe the next steps for Massachusetts marijuana.

Politics/ Public Policy	7/31	5:50 p.m.	5:01	MA	Massachusetts regulators are now preparing the state for retail sales of marijuana. Governor Charlie Baker last week signed a bill into law making changes to the voter-approved measure legalizing marijuana for recreational use. To figure out what was ahead for the Bay State, the Berkshire Eagle's Larry Parnass headed to Colorado...which went through all of this a few years ago. I talked to Larry last week and asked him who is making money off the industry in Colorado.
Politics/ Public Policy	8/4	5:50 p.m.	9:22	MA	THE SHORT LIST – a discussion with journalists and media professionals of the major issues in the news of our region
Politics/ Public Policy	8/7	6:45 a.m. 8:45 a.m.	3:37	MA	It's summer, and Beacon Hill is largely quiet, even though last week, Massachusetts Governor Charlie Baker filed tax holiday legislation -- after legislators had already recessed for the summer. So what is the likelihood of a sales tax free weekend happening in just over two weeks -- For insight, as we do most Mondays, we turn to State House News Service reporter Matt Murphy.
Politics/ Public Policy	8/10	6:45 a.m. 8:45 a.m.	3:17	MA	Massachusetts can expect a hotly contested congressional race next year. That's because after five terms, Congresswoman Niki Tsongas is stepping down. WBUR's Simon Rios reports on early interest in finding her successor.
Politics/ Public Policy	8/11	5:50 p.m.	7:30	MA	THE SHORT LIST: Cannabis advisory board picks, major heroin bust, police "hot list" scans of Mass Pikes' toll gantries, east-west rail study, Democrats and abortion.

Politics/ Public Policy	8/14	6:45 a.m. 8:45 a.m.	4:06	MA	At the end of last week, Governor Charlie Baker's administration rolled out new rules on greenhouse gas emissions from the natural gas, transportation and electricity generation industries. The regulations call for a greenhouse gas reduction of twenty-five percent below 1990 emissions levels by 2020. As we do most Mondays, we check in now with State House News service reporter Matt Murphy. He says some environmental groups are critical of the new regulations.
Politics/ Public Policy	8/18	5:50 p.m.	7:54	MA	THE SHORT LIST: Springfield and Dudley municipal employees make racist comments online, Yawkey Way could be no more, Greenfields' immigration resolution fails.
Politics/ Public Policy	8/21	6:45 a.m. 8:45 a.m.	4:06	MA	On Saturday, tens of thousands of peoples gathered in a counter-protest in Boston -- far outnumbering the permitted and planned "Free Speech" demonstration. Supporters of the conservative "free speech rally" say, despite being outnumbered, the event was a success. Rally keynote speaker was Dr. Shiva Ayyadurai...and to find out what Ayyadurai's message was on Saturday, we turn to State House News Service reporter Matt Murphy.
Politics/ Public Policy	8/24	6:47 a.m. 8:47 a.m.	2:03	MA	The small white sign outside the library in Williamsburg, Massachusetts usually just lists the library's hours. That changed after the white nationalist rally earlier this month in Charlottesville. NEPR's Sam Hudzik reports.

Politics/ Public Policy	8/28	6:45 a.m. 8:45 a.m.	4:32	MA	A big week is ahead for Massachusetts' new marijuana industry. The makeup of the 5-member Cannabis Control Commission will be finalized. Governor Charlie Baker announced his most recent pick last week -- State Senator Jennifer Flanagan. She is a democrat and opponent to legalized pot. NEPR's Sam Hudzik spoke with Statehouse reporter Matt Murphy, about the commission appointments.
Politics/ Public Policy	9/6	6:45 a.m. 8:45 a.m.	4:10	MA	The future of nearly 15-thousand young people in New England remains unclear after Attorney General Jeff Sessions officially rescinded the program known as DACA. Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals has granted temporary status to immigrants whose parents brought them to the country illegally. While many elected officials were quick to condemn the move, DACA recipients were left wondering what's next. WBUR's Shannon Dooling has our story, beginning with the first day of classes at the University of Massachusetts in Boston.
Politics/ Public Policy	9/7	6:45 a.m. 8:45 a.m.	4:20	MA	Governor Baker's testimony today on Capitol Hill is just the latest sign of he's playing a role in the next phase of the federal health care reform. But what might that look like and what kind of influence will Baker have? WBUR's Martha Bebinger reports on the ideas Baker is offering and the bipartisan approach he represents.
Politics/ Public Policy	9/8	5:50 p.m.	8:00	MA	THE SHORT LIST: Cannabis commission getting started, lego/layoffs/Enfield/tax incentives, moving state capital to Springfield, cheating Red Sox

Politics/ Public Policy	9/11	8:45 a.m.	4:33	MA	Massachusetts lawmakers return to Beacon Hill this week following their summer recess. Governor Charlie Baker is pushing them to restrict who is eligible for the state's Medicaid program -- Mass Health. But the Democratic-controlled legislature has a few other priorities also on their list. As we do most Monday's, we turn to Matt Murphy from the state house news service. Speaking to New England Public Radio's Sam Hudzik, Matt offered some history on this back-and-forth.
Politics/ Public Policy	9/12	5:51 a.m. 7:51 a.m.	2:25	MA	Recreational marijuana goes on sale in Massachusetts at retail outlets THIS SUMMER. But the procedures that regulate the sale of pot have yet to be fully clarified. This morning, the Cannabis Control Commission holds its first meeting to begin writing the rule book that will define - pun intended - the budding business. WBUR's Steve Brown looks at what the commission has on their to-do list.
Politics/ Public Policy	9/13	5:51 a.m. 7:51 a.m.	6:28	MA	Immigrants living in New England -- and around the country -- illegally have reason to be on edge. President Trump's enhanced enforcement priorities are leading to increased arrests. And reports of federal immigration agents showing up at schools and courts are heightening fear among people in the country without authorization. But what happens when that fear is used as a weapon? For the New England News Collaborative, WBUR's Shannon Dooling tells us how immigration status is used to torment and intimidate -- and why more people may be looking for a way out.
Politics/ Public Policy	9/15	5:50 p.m.	8:00	MA	THE SHORT LIST: Baker Admin tied to charter school...US News College Rankings...MGM Casino one year until opening...remembering Jafet Robles.

Politics/ Public Policy	9/18	6:45 a.m. 8:45 a.m.	3:50	MA	Community organizations, labor groups and business leaders will be gathering to testify at the Massachusetts State House tomorrow for a legislative hearing on a number of bills that would gradually increase the minimum wage to 15 dollars an hour. That's the same goal of proposed ballot question that could go to voters next year. As we do most Mondays, we turn now to State House News Service reporter Matt Murphy. Matt says -- for now -- these two minimum wage efforts will proceed in tandem.
Politics/ Public Policy	9/22	5:50 p.m.	7:59	MA	THE SHORT LIST: Cold cases/DNA/media bias, MGM's casino play in Connecticut, Berkshire Museum versus the Mass Cultural Council, Puerto Rico post-hurricane.
Politics/ Public Policy	9/25	6:45 a.m. 8:45 a.m.	3:27	MA	Massachusetts politicians are getting involved in the sweepstakes surrounding Amazon's hunt for a second headquarters. That long-term goal comes as the state receives some good short-term news on tax collections. For more on the week ahead on Beacon Hill, New England Public Radio's Carrie Healy turned to State House News Service reporter Katie Lannan. Lannan says budget work is a main agenda item as lawmakers get back to work.
Politics/ Public Policy	9/29	5:50 p.m.	7:53	MA	THE SHORT LIST – a discussion with journalists and media professionals of the major issues in the news of our region
Public Health	7/14	7:53 a.m.	2:50	RI	More than 30 governors from across the U.S. are gathering in Providence, Rhode Island, for the summer meeting of the National Governor's Association. As Ian Donnis reports for the New England News Collaborative, an epidemic of opioid abuse in the states is one of the top problems facing the elected officials.

Public Health	8/4	6:37 a.m. 8:37 a.m.	1:19	MA	New Hampshire politicians on both sides of the aisle were quick to condemn comments President Trump reportedly made during a conversation with the President of Mexico earlier this year. Speaking about the Granite State's opioid epidemic, the President described the state as (quote) "a drug-infested den". As New Hampshire Public Radio's Casey McDermott reports, reactions from the state's recovery community have been more nuanced.
Public Health	9/28	6:36 a.m. 8:36 a.m.	2:11	MA	MGM's Springfield casino is scheduled to open in less than a year. That could have local residents with gambling addictions nervous. The state offers a program that essentially allows people to ban themselves from the casinos for a period of time. But for residents of Western Massachusetts -- it's not that easy to sign up. New England Public Radio's Adam Frenier reports.
Science	8/16	6:45 a.m. 8:45 a.m.	1:15	CT	Students and professors from two Connecticut universities will be launching a high-altitude weather balloon, to capture video of the total solar eclipse next week. WNPR's David Desroches reports.
Science	8/17	5:51 a.m. 7:51 a.m.	5:28	MA	Biologists worldwide are saving seeds -- from crops -- and from other plants important to the ecosystem. In New England, 22 percent of the region's native plants are considered "rare". Some of them are on the federal list of endangered species. Seed banking is one attempt to stop them from disappearing altogether. As New England Public Radio's Jill Kaufman reports, collectors are stepping up their pace.

Science	8/22	6:45 a.m. 8:45 a.m.	3:25	MA/CT	Yesterday's solar eclipse was only partial in New England, but that didn't stop science lovers of all ages from pouring outside to look up. WNPR's Patrick Skahill begins our coverage at Elizabeth Park in West Hartford. Now to Northampton, Massachusetts -- where curious observers also gathered to take in the sky. New England Public Radio's Karen Brown was there.
Science	9/12	5:53 p.m.	4:30	MA	We've all been told that expectant mothers should avoid alcohol and smoking during, and preferably before, pregnancy. Well, what about expectant fathers? UMass Amherst professor Rick Pilsner and other researchers teamed up with the in vitro fertilization clinic at Baystate Medical Center. They took urine samples from men on the same day their sperm was collected.