

QUARTERLY ISSUES PROGRAM

LIST FOR

WWLP – SPRINGFIELD, MA

Issues Program List Herein
Covers the Period
OCTOBER 1, 2012 through DECEMBER 31, 2012

The following is WWLP programming addressing Crime during the 4TH quarter of 2012. These issues were addressed through our locally produced news programming.

News 10/01/12 11pm : 30

A 25 year old Springfield man is recovering from a violent stabbing early this morning. Springfield Police Captain Cheryl Claprood told 22News, the man was stabbed more than once about 1:30 this morning at 64 Federal Street. He needed surgery at Baystate Medical; he's listed in serious condition, but he's expected to be okay. Captain Claprood said they have an idea who might have stabbed the man, but some witnesses are not cooperating.

News 10/02/12 6pm : 30

Longmeadow Police are asking for your help identifying two suspects accused in two separate bank robberies. Hampden Savings Bank on Longmeadow Street was robbed on March 29th. The suspect handed the teller note claiming he had a gun but never showed it. He's described as a tall, black man with a large build. Police say the suspect was wearing a plastic glove that resembles those used in the food industry.

News 10/02/12 6pm : 30

In the second incident, The Hampden Savings Bank on Shaker Road in Longmeadow was robbed on September 21st around 4 in the afternoon. The suspect also claimed to a gun but never showed it. He's described as a white man, between five-foot-six and five-foot-eight. Anyone with information regarding either suspect should call the Longmeadow Police Department at 413-567-3311.

News 10/02/12 6pm : 30

Students at Springfield College are on alert tonight after two separate unarmed robberies took place on campus. Many students are holding onto their cell phones a little tighter tonight. Last night there were two separate robberies on campus. Between 7:30 and 8:30 last night one victim was near Weiser Hall which is right behind me on Alden Street when a person asked to use their cell phone to make a phone call. That's when the suspect allegedly took the phone and ran. The other robbery happened outside of the Allied Health Science Center which is just down Alden Street on the other side of campus. The suspects in the first incident were described as three black males in their late teens to early twenties dressed in all black. The suspect in the other incident was described as a black male around the same age wearing a white sweater and dark pants. These incidents do have some people on campus a little more aware of their surroundings.

News **10/03/12** **6pm** **: 30**

No Bail for two men arrested in a deadly Springfield home invasion this summer. 23-year old Joseph Watkins and 21-year old Ashton Hennessey have been charged with the murder of 29-year old Nicholas Ruiz Gomez. Ruiz Gomez died August 18th, one day after he was shot in the head during a home invasion in which another man was shot as well. Besides murder, Watkins and Hennessey are also facing charges of home invasion and assault with intent to murder.

News **10/04/12** **6pm** **: 30**

Springfield Police need your help identifying a man who allegedly broke into the same convenience store twice in four days. Springfield Police Sgt. John Delaney told 22News this suspect stolen money and cigarettes from the Pride Gas Station Convenience Store on Page Blvd around 2am September 28th. The same suspect broke into the same store four days later on October 2nd. This time he wrapped a shirt around his face. Again, he took money and cigarettes. If you recognize this suspect, call Springfield Police Detectives at 787-6355 or you can anonymously text-a-tip. Detectives believe the suspect is responsible for other breaks.

News **10/05/12** **7am** **: 30**

A 25 year old Springfield man is in surgery after being stabbed multiple times at 64 Federal Street in Springfield, Captain Cheryl Claprood told 22News the stabbing happened around 1:30 this morning. Claprood said they know who the suspect is but no one is cooperating. The Springfield Detective Bureau is currently interviewing witnesses. The victim is in serious condition.

News **10/05/12** **7am** **: 30**

Springfield Police are looking for two men after an armed robbery at a car wash. Springfield Captain William Collins told 22News a man was washing his car at Mr. Sparkle on State Street when two men approached him. That's when one of the men allegedly pointed a black automatic handgun. They got away with his wallet, car keys and cell phone. Police are looking for two black men, around 6'0" tall in their late 20s and were last seen wearing hoodies. If you have any information you are asked to call the Springfield Detective Bureau.

News **10/06/12** **6pm** **: 30**

Springfield police have reportedly questioned a possible suspect, in connection with a stabbing early this morning in the Hollywood section of the city. Springfield Police Captain Cheryl Claprood and Lt. Robert Moynihan told 22News, someone stabbed a 34 year old man in the chest during an argument just after midnight in front of 20-28 Saratoga Street. The wounded man was taken to Baystate Medical Center to be operated on, and he's recovering in stable condition.

News **10/06/12** **9am** **: 30**

A cat burglar didn't quite stick the landing during a break-in at a Quincy Laundromat. A security camera captured the burglar's entrance through the ceiling tiles. He hit a laundry cart on the way to the floor. The man and a female accomplice forced open a locked office door. They apparently didn't notice the camera and made no attempt to cover their faces. Quincy Police hope someone will recognize the pair and come forward.

News **10/07/12** **6pm** **: 30**

20 year old Julia Neufeld of Northampton has been arrested for allegedly causing a late night accident on Interstate 91 in Holyoke. State Police Sgt. Adam Hakkarainen told 22News Neufeld's been charged with operating under the influence and negligent operation. Her car was reportedly in an accident with another driver while they were both heading North near the Holyoke scenic rest area. State Trooper Nicole Morrell told 22News, that neither driver was hurt. One of the cars had to be towed out of the woods.

News **10/08/12** **6pm** **: 30**

Two former employees of the Northampton Walmart have been accused of stealing and reselling more than \$9,000 worth of merchandise from the store. Police say they were alerted by Walmart management, who told them the suspects were seen on video surveillance removing thousands of dollars of electronics, clothing and other items from the store. The suspects, 21-year-old Cody Collier Slavis of Huntington and 22-year-old Roberto Roldan of Palmer, pleaded not guilty to larceny charges last week and were released on personal recognizance.

News **10/09/12** **6pm** **: 30**

Springfield Police has released new photos of a man who robbed the Walgreen's pharmacy on Sumner Avenue two weeks ago. On Saturday September 22nd, this man walked into the pharmacy near the X neighborhood in Springfield with a handgun. He got away with six bottles of oxycontin pills. Police say he ran down Belmont Avenue toward East Longmeadow. Police describe the suspect as a tall white man in his mid to late twenties with blue-gray eyes, wearing dark clothing and a black baseball cap. Anyone with information can contact the Springfield Police Detective Bureau at the number on your screen.

News **10/14/12** **9am** **: 30**

Massachusetts State Police made 6 arrests at the sobriety checkpoint on Route 9 in Hadley overnight. State Police Lt. John Healy told 22News 421 cars went through the checkpoint and five arrests were for operating under the influence.

News **10/15/12** **6pm** **: 30**

Shots were fired during the armed robbery of a jewelry store. Chicopee police are investigating following a shooting near a jewelry store on Memorial Drive. Police have been called to the shopping plaza near the Furnari Jewelers, which is located next to the Planet Fitness gym. Police Capt. Lonnie Dakin told 22News that at this time police are investigating a robbery. A Chicopee police dispatcher confirmed there was a shooting, but there was no information available on a victim. Chicopee and state police are currently in the area investigating.

News **10/15/12** **5pm** **: 30**

Police are looking for two suspects, at least one of whom may have been shot, following a robbery at a Chicopee jewelry store. Late this afternoon, Chicopee Police Sgt. Chris Lareau says two men walked into Furnari Jewelers on Memorial Drive and began assaulting a worker. The worker fired a gun at the suspects, who then got away. It isn't clear at this time whether any of the suspects indeed were shot. The worker, who suffered injuries to his face, was taken to Baystate Medical Center. His condition is not known at this time.

News **10/16/12** **6pm** **: 30**

Scary moments for a jewelry store owner who says he fired shots in self defense when two men tried to rob him. We brought you the story as it was breaking last night, and today, 22News I-Team Reporter Laura Hutchinson talked to Anthony Furnari who's happy he survived the attack. Furnari said he was kicked, beaten and even fought over a loaded gun. He says he's happy he and his co-worker lived to talk about it today. Police say at least two people dressed in black walked into Furnari Jewelers Monday evening expecting to rob the store, what they apparently didn't expect was the owner, Anthony Furnari, had a loaded gun. Furnari says after he fired these shots, one of the suspects lunged at him, they actually wrestled to the ground for about 30 seconds as one of the suspects tried to steal his gun. Furnari was taken to the hospital, he needed stitches on his eye and hand, his employee Cindy who was also in the store when it happened is also ok. Now police are searching for the alleged suspects. Furnari is getting his business back in one piece, not worried about running into his assailants again. Furnari says the suspects got off with some gold chains which he's hoping police can recover. Police say a "person of interest" is in the hospital tonight. So far no suspects have been arrested.

News **10/16/12** **6pm** **: 30**

Springfield Police say a brother and sister used an unusual excuse when they were caught trying to steal a TV from the bathroom of a sports bar. Sgt. John Delaney told 22News Robert and Amanda Larrivee were arrested Sunday night at Samuel's Sports Bar at the Basketball Hall of Fame. A customer in the women's bathroom heard the sound of the TV being ripped from the wall, and then ran out and told the manager. The manager locked the door and called police. When officers got there Sgt. Delaney said the Larrivees told them that they had been having sex in the bathroom.

News **10/17/12** **6pm** **: 30**

A suspect who got shot by a Jewelry store owner in Chicopee was arraigned today. Reynaldo Reyes of Holyoke was charged with 2 counts of masked armed robbery and larceny of a firearm. Reyes is a suspect in Monday's robbery of the Furnari Jewelers. Reyes stayed in his hospital room while his lawyer entered a not guilty plea. Bail was set at \$500,000. Store owner, Anthony Furnari told 22News that he fired several shots at two masked men who grabbed some gold chains and wrestled his handgun away from him during a violent struggle.

News **10/17/12** **5pm** **: 30**

Enrico "Jack" Villamaino pleaded not guilty to 12 charges stemming from a voter fraud scheme. The Hampden County District Attorney alleges everything from Jack Villamaino getting married so his wife couldn't testify against him, thinking about escaping to Switzerland to egging on the police by posting the movie poster from "Catch me if you can" on his Facebook page. Jack Villamaino with a new full beard, handcuffed and shackled was arraigned in Superior Court in Springfield today. A grand jury indicted Villamaino on 12 charges last week; nine of them for absentee voter fraud. He faces up to 60 years in jail if convicted on all counts. District Attorney Mark Mastroianni claims Villamaino and his co-defendant, his new wife Courtney Llewellyn worked together to change the party affiliation of more than 200 registered voters in East Longmeadow. The goal, Mastroianni alleges, was to have Villamaino fill out and cast those ballots for himself. Villamaino was a candidate for state representative at the time of the alleged scheme.

News **10/19/12** **7am** **: 30**

Massachusetts State Police made 6 arrests at the sobriety checkpoint on Route 9 in Hadley overnight. State Police Lt. John Healy told 22News 421 cars went through the checkpoint and five arrests were for operating under the influence.

News **10/22/12** **6pm** **: 30**

A second suspect is under arrest in connection with a Chicopee jewelry store robbery. Detective Sergeant Jeffrey Nadeau told 22News that Jose Reyes-Oquendo of Holyoke was arrested on Maple Street in Holyoke on Friday. According Sergeant Nadeau, Reyes-Oquendo is the brother of Reynaldo Reyes who was allegedly shot during the holdup. They are accused of robbing the Furnari Jewelers on Memorial Drive on October 15th.

News **10/22/12** **6pm** **: 30**

Four Pittsfield teens were in court today, accused of raping a UMass student in her dorm room. The alleged incident is said to have happened two weeks ago. Three of the suspects are 18, the other is 17. All are from Pittsfield, but none are UMass students. Four men from Pittsfield have been arrested for the rape of an 18 year old student from the University of Massachusetts Amherst. These are the four Berkshire County teens that went before a judge

in Eastern Hampshire District Court in Belchertown on Monday. Police accused Emmanuel Bile, Justin King, Adam Liccardi and Caleb Womack of raping a UMass student for hours inside her dorm room during the early morning hours of Saturday October 13th. Kennedy is one of the many freshman dormitories here on campus. The victim is said to be a freshman and the District Attorney's office says the four suspects were signed into the residence hall by another student shortly after midnight. Surveillance Tape caught them leaving four hours later.

News **10/23/12** **6pm** **: 30**

25-year old, Emanuel Santana has been arrested in connection with a deadly August shooting in Springfield. He is the second suspect arrested for that shooting. Springfield Police Sgt. John Delaney told 22News that Santana of Chicopee is charged with murder, possession of a firearm, and discharging a firearm in the killing of 38 year-old Antonio Gonzalez. Gonzalez died after he was shot in the chest on Bay Street during early morning hours of August 11th. Shortly after the murder, 16 year-old Joshua Pena was arrested. Gonzalez' wife told 22News that her husband was trying to break up a fight, when he was shot.

News **10/23/12** **6pm** **: 30**

Police in Springfield have arrested a man for murder, just hours after the victim was stabbed to death. Police Sgt. John Delaney told 22News this morning police were called to 51 Jefferson Avenue, for a report of a disturbance. Once there, police found 38 year-old Sadeeq Khalid Allah stabbed multiple times in the armpit. Allah was taken to Baystate Medical Center where he died. Shortly after he died police questioned 28 year-old Edwin Santiago who checked himself into the hospital. After hours of gathering evidence, Santiago was arrested for the alleged murder. Delaney says Allah is the city's ninth homicide victim this year.

News **10/23/12** **5pm** **: 30**

A Florence Walgreens has been robbed twice and now Northampton Police are trying to figure out if the incidents are connected. Northampton Police say no one was hurt in the robberies, but the suspects did get away with an unspecified amount of Oxycodone, a strong painkiller. The pharmacy is located inside the Northampton Health Center on Main Street in Florence. It was first robbed October 3rd and the most recent robbery happened last Friday night just before 7. Northampton Police said the suspect was wearing a white mask and a dark hooded sweatshirt.

News **10/24/12** **11pm** **: 30**

53 year old Dennis Drew of Belchertown was sentenced to serve three to four years for selling a piece of heavy equipment that didn't belong to him and keeping the money. Hampshire County Superior Court Judge Daniel Ford found Drew guilty of larceny, misleading police, and threatening a state trooper. According to a statement from

Northwestern District Attorney's Spokeswoman Mary Carey, Drew sold an industrial- sized rock crusher for a Conway Businessman, and then kept the 130-thousand dollar check he received in payment. Drew will serve his time in state prison.

News **11/02/12** **6pm** **: 30**

Retired Springfield police officer George Stuart was arraigned in today on arson charges. This is video of the July standoff at Stuart's home in Ludlow when allegedly set his home on fire. The 71-year-old was recently released from Baystate medical center. He was recovering after shooting himself during the standoff. The Hampden County District Attorney's office told 22News he had posted bail and was released.

News **11/02/12** **6pm** **: 30**

A man who is accused of beating a woman with a live snake turned himself in to West Springfield police. The alleged attack happened at a home on Morton Street. 34-year-old Keith Paro is facing charges after police say he used this snake to beat his girlfriend, and then threw it in a hot tub where the snake died. Captain Dan Spaulding told 22News that among several charges, Paro faces domestic assault and animal cruelty charges for the alleged attack.

News **11/02/12** **6pm** **: 30**

An Eastern Hampshire County Court Judge has released several court documents revealing more details in the case of an alleged rape on the UMass campus. Several media outlets requested the courts release documents relating to the case, arguing that the alleged crime happened at a public university. The case involves a UMass freshman who says four Pittsfield teenagers raped her inside her dorm room on October 13th. In the court documents obtained by 22News, the victim says she was drunk before arriving at her dorm room and finding the four suspects. She says she continued to drink with them and smoke pot before the alleged crime happened. UMass Police say three of the teens were signed into the residence hall by another student.

News **11/02/12** **12pm** **: 30**

A UMass Amherst student is at Baystate Medical Center today after police say he was assaulted on the street early this morning. Police Lieutenant Ronald Young told 22News 19 year-old James Anthony Harris has been arrested for the attack. Just after midnight Lt. Young says Harris and the victim began arguing on North Pleasant Street. Harris allegedly struck the victim in the face causing him to fall backward and hit his head on the sidewalk. The victim's in serious but stable condition. Lt. Young says he's expected to survive.

News **11/02/12** **5pm** **: 30**

A 22News follow-up from the Amber Alert on Wednesday; the mom, 28 year old Cheryl Kozaczek of Westfield will stay in a Virginia jail until at least the end of the month. A court

hearing is scheduled in a Virginia Court on November 29th. No bail was set for Kozaczek. The woman and her baby were at the center of an amber alert on Wednesday. She does not have legal custody of her child. The Massachusetts Department of Children and Families has the baby. Its Public Affairs Director told 22News they are making arrangements to get the baby back here.

News **11/07/12** **6pm** **: 30**

Springfield Police are asking for your help identifying a suspect in an armed robbery. Springfield Police Sgt. John Delaney told 22News the man in this surveillance photo held up the Racing Mart on Page Blvd around 1:30 this morning. He threatened the clerk with a knife, and got away with some cash. If you recognize the man in the photo, you're asked to call the Springfield detective bureau at 787-6355 or you may anonymously text a tip.

News **11/07/12** **5pm** **: 30**

38-year-old Luis Cintron of Springfield has admitted to stabbing a man from Connecticut that he believed was going to urinate in a driveway outside his home. Cintron pleaded guilty Tuesday to second-degree murder for the 2011 killing of 32-year-old Carlos Beslanga of Newington, Conn. Cintron faces a mandatory life sentence with possible parole. Prosecutors said Cintron argued with Beslanga then got a 10-inch kitchen knife from his home and killed him. Cintron said he suffers from bipolar disorder and schizophrenia.

News **11/08/12** **4:30am** **: 30**

This morning, Thomas Marrero is facing firearms, drug and assault charges after allegedly hitting a police cruiser while trying to escape getting arrested. Sgt. John Delaney told 22News detectives got wind of a cocaine deal that was about to happen at the Colonial Estates Complex on Beacon Terrace. When officers tried to arrests Marerro he drove off and allegedly smashed into a cruiser on North Branch Parkway. Officers broke through his car windows and pulled him out. They found a .40 caliber pistol in the car.

News **11/09/12** **6pm** **: 30**

East Longmeadow Police are searching for a suspect who robbed the Peoples Bank on North Main Street this morning. Sgt. Patrick Manley told 22News that a man gave the teller a threatening note, demanding cash. Manley said the robber got away, last seen heading down North Main Street. Police dogs were unable to track him down. The robber's described as an African American man, about 5 feet eight inches tall with a slight build. If you have any information, call East Longmeadow police at the number on your screen, 525-5440.

News **11/09/12** **6am** **: 30**

A drug suspect crashed into a Springfield Police cruiser as he tried to get away and officers say they smashed his car window to stop him from reaching for a weapon. Sgt. John Delaney told 22News, narcotics detectives heard about a cocaine deal that was about to

happen Wednesday evening at the Colonial Estates complex on Beacon Terrace. As officers tried to arrest Thomas Marrero he allegedly drove off and hit a police cruiser on North Branch Parkway.

News **11/10/12** **11pm** **: 30**

State police seized a significant amount of hard drugs during a traffic stop on the mass pike Thursday. Police discovered three kilograms of heroin in the back seat of a jeep they pulled over for speeding in Grafton. According to a state police news release, the driver, 51-year old Ronnie Searcy of Hyde Park was arrested and charged with trafficking heroin. Searcy is being held on \$340,000 dollars bail.

News **11/11/12** **6pm** **: 30**

22News has learned of a reported home invasion this weekend in the old hill section of Springfield. Springfield police captain Cheryl Claprood said it happened late last night at 122 King Street. Someone knocked at the door and when the owner answered, two men allegedly forced their way in. One of them had a gun; the other stole the TV right off the wall. No one who lives there was hurt.

News **11/11/12** **9am** **: 30**

Springfield Police are looking for two men who drove off in a red Toyota Camry after an armed home invasion. Captain Cheryl Claprood told 22News someone knocked on the door of 122 King Street around 10 Saturday night. When the homeowner answered they allegedly forced their way into the house. One man reportedly took the TV off the wall while the other pointed a hand gun. Police are looking for two African American men in their 20's. If you have any information, you're asked to contact the Springfield Detective Bureau at 787-6355 or text a tip.

News **11/11/12** **9am** **: 30**

Springfield Police are also looking for a gray SUV Volvo that they believe was involved in a drive by shooting. Captain Claprood told 22News someone fired shots at a home at 287 Central Street in Springfield around 3 this morning. Police were notified about the shooting in the area of Central and Walnut Streets. People in two cars were reportedly shooting at each other. Bullets were found in the walls of the home and also hit a car. No one was injured.

News **11/11/12** **7am** **: 30**

A Connecticut man was arrested after stealing a delivery driver's car, and completing some of the deliveries. Police say 45-year-old Keith Hinds stole a Chinese food delivery driver's car. The driver left it running while he went into a middle school to drop off an order. According to police, the suspect went on to deliver several orders to customers so he could pocket the cash. Hinds was captured while making a delivery. The suspect faces larceny and drug

possession charges.

News **11/12/12** **6pm** **: 30**

Springfield Police have arrested a man who allegedly struck an officer working a construction detail this morning. Springfield Police Capt. Thomas Trites told 22News the officer was struck near Orange and Ranney Streets around 11:00 this morning. Captain Trites says the driver, 24-year old Siloe Perez, kept going after striking the officer. Police caught up with him on Sumner Avenue a short time later. The officer was taken to the hospital, but Trites said that his injuries do not appear to be serious. Perez is being charged with operating under the influence, and leaving the scene of an accident.

News **11/12/12** **12pm** **: 30**

Northampton police are asking for your help identifying a suspect who robbed a Subway on King Street. Detective Patrick Moody told 22News the man in this surveillance photo walked into the restaurant on King Street at around 5:30 Sunday. After asking for change the suspect reached over and grabbed money from the cash register and then ran out. He is described as in his thirties, unshaved and wearing a white hoodie with thick green horizontal stripes. If you recognize the man in the photo, you're asked to call the Northampton detective bureau at the number on your screen (413) 587-1100.

News **11/13/12** **6pm** **: 30**

The man accused of hitting a Springfield police officer with his pickup truck and then driving away has been ordered held on \$25,000 bail. 24 YEAR OLD Siloe Perez was arraigned this morning at the Hampden County Hall of Justice. He pleaded not guilty to several charges including leaving the scene of an accident, operating under the influence, and assault and battery with a dangerous weapon. Perez was arrested on Sumner Avenue Monday after allegedly hitting Officer David Starr who was working a construction detail near Orange and Ranney Streets. Starr was treated at the hospital for a knee injury, but has since been released.

News **11/14/12** **5pm** **: 30**

State police are on the lookout for the driver of a car involved in a hit-and-run crash on I-91 in Easthampton which injured an elderly driver. Trooper Robert Wyckoff told 22News the crash happened around 9:45 this morning on I-91 in Easthampton. Witnesses told police an elderly woman was traveling southbound when she collided with a car driven by a middle-aged man. According to Wyckoff the man was allegedly making an illegal turn. The woman was taken to Cooley Dickinson Hospital I in Northampton and is expected to survive. Police are looking for a gray sedan, possibly a Chevrolet Malibu. Witnesses described the driver as a middle-aged white man with dark, curly hair and dark eyes. If you have any information, call State Police in Northampton at (413) 584-3000.

News **11/14/12** **6am** **: 30**

26-year-old Tyler Barcomb of Haydenville is charged with robbing a Subway restaurant in Northampton on Sunday night. Police say Barcomb walked into the sandwich shop on King Street at around 5:30 and asked for change. When the clerk opened the register, Barcomb allegedly reached over the counter grabbed some money and ran out. Barcomb is charged with unarmed robbery and damaging property.

News **11/15/12** **6pm** **: 30**

Westfield police are hoping you'll recognize a man who stole \$700 dollars from another man's bank account after the victim left an ATM. Detective Todd Edwards told 22News a 70 year-old man withdrew money from a Bank of America ATM on October 10th, but he didn't log-out before leaving. That's when he says this man withdrew a total of \$700 dollars from the other man's account. If you can identify him, you're asked to call Westfield Police at 572-6400.

News **11/15/12** **5am** **: 30**

Springfield Police are asking for you help identifying a suspect who allegedly stole a tablet computer from the CVS Pharmacy on Parker Street. Sgt. John Delaney told 22News the man in these photographs went behind the counter pulled the \$200.00 tablet off the shelf and walked out of the store. The suspect is described as a heavy-set black man in his late 50s and about 5' 8" inches tall. If you recognize him you're asked to call the Springfield Detective Bureau at the number on your screen or you can anonymously text a tip.

News **11/16/12** **6pm** **: 30**

Springfield Police have arrested a man accused of assaulting and robbing elderly people in several communities. Springfield Police Sgt. John Delaney told 22News 37-year old Victor Vera assaulted an 80-year old man who was carrying groceries into his Gillette Avenue home in Forest Park. Vera allegedly attacked the elderly man from behind and stole \$400. East Longmeadow Police are investigating Vera's role in a similar attack. Sgt. Delaney says Vera was also wanted as a Fugitive from Justice in Connecticut.

News **11/16/12** **7am** **: 30**

Springfield Police are looking for two men who drove off in a red Toyota Camry after an armed home invasion. Captain Cheryl Claprod told 22News someone knocked on the door of 122 King Street in the old hill neighborhood about 10 Saturday night. When the homeowner answered they allegedly pushed the door open. Claprod said the two forced their way into the house. One man reportedly took the TV off the wall and the other pointed a hand gun at the people who live there. Captain Claprod said they're looking for two African American men in their 20's. If you have any information, you're asked to contact the Springfield Detective Bureau at 787-6355 or text a tip.

News **11/16/12** **7am** **: 30**

Springfield Police are also looking for a gray SUV Volvo that they believe was involved in a drive by shooting. Captain Claprood told 22News someone fired shots at a home at 287 Central Street in Springfield around 3 this morning. She says someone notified police about the shooting in the area of Central and Walnut Streets in the maple high-six corners neighborhood. The occupants in two cars were reportedly shooting at each other. Some of the bullets reportedly pierced the walls of the home and hit a car, but luckily no one was wounded.

News **11/16/12** **4:30am** **: 30**

A man is recovering in the hospital after getting shot through the window of his home. Pittsfield Police Sgt. Glenn Decker told 22News the man was shot in the buttocks at around 12:30 this morning inside his home at 168 Dewey Avenue. He was taken to Berkshire Medical Center. Sgt. Decker said they don't have any witnesses, but they're still investigating.

News **11/16/12** **4:30am** **: 30**

A man with a gun walked into the CVS Pharmacy on Silver Street in Agawam and stole an unknown amount of oxycontin pills. It happened just after 9:00 Thursday night at 163 Silver Street. Lt. Edward McGovern told 22News the man had a mask on. He approached the pharmacy, jumped the counter, ran past the pharmacists, grabbed the oxycontin, put it in a bag and ran out the rear emergency exit on foot. The suspect is a white man, in his early 20's just over 6-feet tall. If you have any information call the Agawam Police Department at 786-4767.

News **11/17/12** **9am** **: 30**

Four Springfield police officers were injured while breaking up a brawl in front on Worthington Street. Springfield Police Captain Cheryl Claprood told 22News it took about 20 officers to break up the fight. The incident happened at around 2 this morning with women fighting inside the bar. Eventually more people got involved and the fight spilled onto the streets. Nine arrests have been made. Captain Claprood said they are all facing charges like assault and battery on police officers. Three officers were taken to a hospital. They are all expected to be okay.

News **11/17/12** **6pm** **: 30**

A West Springfield branch bank, TD north at the Riverdale Shops was held up this afternoon, reportedly by a man with a gun. 22News followed the police search of the area just after the bank was robbed. Police said they found the suspect's car in the parking lot of the Olympia Skating rink not far from the Riverdale Shops. 22News is awaiting confirmation that West Springfield police had taken the man into custody. 22News followed the unfolding series of events as police surrounded the alleged getaway car and scoured the area for the man they

were looking for. We don't know at this point if anyone has been charged with the robbery. But we expect to learn that momentarily. You're looking at exclusive video of the search for a West Springfield bank robber this afternoon.

News **11/17/12** **6pm** **: 30**

Springfield Detectives hope surveillance video will lead them to the man who tried to rob the 711 store on Cooley Street early this morning. Springfield Police Captain Cheryl Clapprood told 22News the man came into the store about two o'clock pretending to be a customer. Store clerk Hazem Abduah told 22News what happened next.

News **11/17/12** **9am** **: 30**

Massachusetts State Police made four arrests at a sobriety checkpoint on Memorial Drive in Chicopee. Lt. Andrew Bzdel told 22news there were 3 people arrested for driving under the influence and there was one warrant arrest. One of the OUI arrest made was from a person who has a life suspension for manslaughter. Bzdel says 168 cars went through the sobriety checkpoint and 15 were screened.

News **11/17/12** **6pm** **: 30**

Police need your help tracking down a suspect in the latest pharmacy robbery. Prescription drug overdose is a leading cause of accident deaths in this country, and police say in western Massachusetts heroin is partly to blame. Police say this man robbed the CVS pharmacy in Agawam last week, stealing Oxycodone pills. This is just one of several recent pharmacy robberies here in Western Massachusetts. Last month a Walgreens in Florence was robbed twice, In September Oxycodone pills were taken from the Walgreens on Sumner Ave in Springfield as well. As drug thefts become more common, so do prescription drug overdoses. Baystate Medical Center's Dr. Niels Rathlev says it's mostly become a problem among teenage boys in Western Mass., although they see a number of scenarios. According to the Centers for Disease Control, 37,000 Americans died after accidentally overdosing on drugs in 2009, half involved prescription painkillers. Springfield police Sgt. John Delaney says police are trying get heroin users and dealers off the streets in an effort to stop the prescription drug thefts. As we get heroin off the streets slowly we'll start to see these pharmacy statistics go down. If you think you know who's been involved in the different pharmacy robberies you're asked to report it to police.

News **11/19/12** **5pm** **: 30**

West Springfield police have arrested a man suspected of robbing a TD bank branch at the Riverdale shops over the weekend. Police Captain Daniel Spaulding told 22News that 43 year-old Troy Dahlquist of Billerica was arrested at the Comfort in West Springfield. According to Spaulding, Dahlquist is accused of entering the TD bank just after 1pm. Sunday and handing the teller a note implying he had a gun. Spaulding said a search of the alleged get-away car turned up stolen money as well as the hat and sunglasses the suspect was wearing.

News **11/19/12** **6am** **: 30**

This morning police in Westfield are trying to figure out who made a bottle bomb that exploded on the Great River Bridge. Lieutenant Michael LaCroix told 22News someone reported the explosion at around 7:30 Sunday night. No one was injured and no damage was reported. More bottle bombs were found in a backpack under a train trestle at the corner of Orange and Elm streets. State Police, firefighters and the bomb squad were called in. They used a robot to help them investigate.

News **11/19/12** **6am** **: 30**

An alleged hit and run driver is due in court today on charges he caused extensive damage to a cemetery in Easthampton, where generations of veterans are buried. The Main Street Cemetery is the resting place of soldiers dating back to the Revolutionary War. The damage has left neighbors and veterans upset by the disrespect.

News **11/20/12** **5pm** **: 30**

Springfield police are looking for suspects in connection with the shooting of a woman in the city's Mason Square neighborhood. Police Sgt. John Delaney told 22news the woman was shot once in each leg. The shooting took place around 1p.m. in the area of Catharine Street, which is not far from the Rebecca Johnson Elementary School. Springfield Public Schools Spokesperson Azell Cavaan told 22News the school had been put on lockdown, but classes continued as-normal. No one at the school was hurt.

News **11/20/12** **5pm** **: 30**

West Springfield police are looking for help in identifying a man who robbed a Cumberland Farms store. West Springfield Police Captain Daniel Spaulding told 22News the suspect walked into the convenience store Friday afternoon armed with a large knife. He took cash from the store's register and ran away. Spaulding said a man fitting the same description also tried to rob the Dunkin' Donuts on Park Street. If you have any information, you are asked to call West Springfield Police at (413) 263-3210.

News **11/23/12** **6pm** **: 30**

Springfield Police say they expect to file charges against a man who left his girlfriend's 2-year-old son in a car while he went shopping for Black Friday bargains. At around 1:30 this morning 34 year old Anthony Perry of Springfield allegedly left the child so he could go into K-Mart at the Liberty Street Plaza and buy the TV. Perry then allegedly went home with his new 51-inch flat screen and left the toddler behind. Perry denies what happened and says he went into the store with the child and the boy got lost.

News **11/25/12** **9am** **: 30**

Springfield Police are looking for four men who drove off in a black SUV after an alleged armed home invasion. Captain Cheryl Claprood told 22News three Hispanic men with bandanas covering their faces kicked open the door at 116 Westford Avenue around 2 this morning. One of the men reportedly punched a woman in the face then broke into her locked bedroom and took marijuana. Claprood said one of the men was armed with a hammer. Captain Claprood said they're looking for the three men who entered the home and the driver who was waiting for them. If you have any information, you're asked to contact the Springfield Detective Bureau at 787-6355 or text a tip.

News **11/26/12** **6pm** **: 30**

Police are asking for your help recovering nearly 100 firearms stolen from the Smith and Wesson Plant in Springfield. Police in Stratford, Connecticut have arrested Elliot Perez and Michael Murphy in connection with the theft. Stratford Police say Perez stole the one-hundred and eleven handguns from the plant on November 8th. Perez and Murphy then allegedly sold an unknown number of firearms on the street. Police have been able to recover 28 of the 111 firearms that were stolen, but the remainder has yet to be located. Anyone who may have information should call Stratford Police at 203-385-4119 or ATF 203-773-2060.

News **11/26/12** **5pm** **: 30**

Police in southern Connecticut have arrested a truck driver who they say stole more than 100 handguns from Smith & Wesson's Springfield factory. According to a Stratford Police news release Elliot Perez and Michael Murphy were arrested over the weekend. Stratford Police said Perez allegedly stole 111 handguns from the Springfield plant on November 8th and drove them on his tractor trailer down to Bridgeport. There, he and Murphy allegedly sold an unknown number of the guns on the street. So far, police have only been able to recover 28 of the stolen guns.

News **11/28/12** **6pm** **: 30**

Springfield Police say thieves couldn't break into a safe containing 16 guns they found in a home in Sixteen Acres, so they just hauled off the entire 500-pound safe. The safe was later found, broken open and stripped of all weapons or ammunition. This is a photo of the door to the safe. Because of the weight involved, police believe at least two people were involved. Police are concerned that the guns will make their way into the hands of criminals.

News **11/29/12** **12pm** **: 30**

Also new today, a Belchertown woman has pleaded not guilty to having sex with her friend's 13-year-old son. Amanda Wilson was released on personal recognizance after pleading not guilty Wednesday to four counts of aggravated rape of a child. Prosecutors say the 27-year-old Wilson had sex with the boy at his Amherst home on several occasions while his mother was at work or visiting relatives. Some of the alleged sexual encounters took place in June,

when the rest of the boy's family was out of the country and he was staying with Wilson. Wilson was also barred from any contact with the boy, and any unsupervised contact with anyone under the age of 16. Wilson's lawyer says she is not as flight risk and has no criminal record.

News **11/30/12** **6pm** **: 30**

A Springfield woman is recovering after being shot in the chest, allegedly by her uncle. Springfield Police Sgt. John Delaney told 22News that 22 year old Lavell Lane shot his 21-year old niece through a door during an argument at his Carew Street home just before 1:30 this morning. The victim was taken Baystate Medical Center where she is in good condition. Lane been charged with assault with intent to murder.

News **11/30/12** **12pm** **: 30**

Springfield Police are trying to figure out who shot a man outside a McDonald's restaurant in the South End. Lt. Maurice Carney told 22News the 21-year-old was shot in the buttocks near 360 Main Street, just after 7 Thursday night. He was taken to Baystate Medical Center and is expected to survive. The man told police he did not see who shot him. Right now, there are no suspects.

News **11/30/12** **7am** **: 30**

Springfield Police are looking four men who drove off in a black SUV after an alleged armed home invasion. Captain Cheryl Claprood told 22News three Hispanic men with bandanas covering their faces kicked open the door at 116 Westford Avenue around 2 this morning. One of the men reportedly punched a woman in the face then broke into her locked bedroom and took marijuana. Claprood said one of the men was armed with a hammer. Captain Claprood said they're looking for the three men who entered the home and the driver who was waiting for them. If you have any information, you're asked to contact the Springfield Detective Bureau at 787-6355 or text a tip.

News **11/30/12** **6pm** **: 30**

Corey Sutton of Montague was ordered held on \$200,000 dollars bail at his arraigned today on an attempted murder charge. Sutton is accused of shooting a man three times Sunday morning on Sunset Drive in Orange. Orange Police Chief Robert Haigh told 22News the victim is in stable condition after surgery, but did not tell us his name. Sutton was also charged with assault and battery with a dangerous weapon. His next court appearance is scheduled for December 28th.

News **12/03/12** **6pm** **: 30**

Springfield's 12th murder of the year appears to have come as the result of an attempted robbery. That's according to Springfield police. Sgt John Delaney told 22News 19 year-old

Keough Collins of Chicopee was shot in the head around 5:30 Sunday night on Robert Dyer Circle. Collins was one of two victims in a double shooting, where a 31 year-old man was also shot in the leg. The second victim is expected to be okay. Delaney said at this time it seems Collins' killing was a robbery attempt involving gang and drugs. Police detectives are still interviewing witnesses and gathering evidence. If you have any information, call the Springfield Police Department's Detective Bureau at 413-787-6355 or you can "Text-a-Tip".

News **12/03/12** **5am** **: 30**

One man is dead after being shot in the head and another is recovering this morning in the hospital. The shooting happened around 5:30 Sunday evening at 103 Robert Dyer Circle. This morning, the Springfield Police Department Detective Bureau is trying to figure out what happened. Sgt. Jeff Martucci told 22News the other man was shot in the ankle, and taken to Baystate Medical Center. He is expected to survive. The victim's names have not been released.

News **12/04/12** **6pm** **: 30**

A 22News follow up now on last night's standoff in East Longmeadow. 52 year old Stephen Powell was arraigned today in Palmer District Court. He's accused of barricading himself inside his Roderick Avenue and threatening to kill someone Monday night. Powell was arraigned on charges of Assault and Battery, Assault with a knife, and threat to commit murder.

News **12/04/12** **5:30pm** **: 30**

Westfield Police say It's the city's largest ever heroin bust. Two men are in jail and two others made bail after being arraigned in Westfield District Court today. Westfield police Sergeant Steve Dickinson told 22News police arrested four men Friday and seized more than 500 packets of heroin. The estimated street value is around \$5,000. The Westfield police executed search warrants on Arnold Street and Conner Avenue. Four men were arrested and charged with possession with intent to distribute.

News **12/06/12** **6pm** **: 30**

Four men accused of raping a UMass student in her dorm room have been indicted by a Hampshire County Grand Jury. Adam Liccardi, Justin King, Emmanuel Bile and Caleb Womack are charged with three counts of aggravated rape. Prosecutors say on October 13, the four were seen entering the victim's dorm room. Jennifer Suhl of the DA's office says the victim was raped while she was intoxicated and drifting in and out of consciousness. King, Bile, and Womack are expected to be arraigned at Hampshire Superior Court in Northampton on Monday.

News **12/06/12** **6pm** **: 30**

Springfield Police arrested a Springfield teenager in last weekend's murder, and now say the victim was trying to commit a robbery when he was killed. Police arrested 18 year old Ashawnee Duke and charged him with murder. Duke is accused of shooting and killing Keough Collins near Robert Dyer Circle Sunday night. Springfield Police SGT John Delaney told 22News Duke and Collins were trying to rob drugs and money from another man. During a fight, Keough was shot in the head, and the robbery target was shot in the leg. Sgt. Delaney told 22News Keough Collins was a victim of "friendly fire" from his partner in crime.

News **12/06/12** **6pm** **: 30**

A Wilbraham neighborhood is on high alert after a series of break-ins. Sgt. Glen Clark told 22News there have been four or five break-ins to homes and cars recently in the Dipping Hole Road area. Tom Mehlich's home was one of them. He told 22News the burglars came in late at night.

News **12/06/12** **5pm** **: 30**

A Shrewsbury church became the target of a Grinch. Someone stole thousands of dollars worth of Christmas gifts collected for poor children over the past year. The gifts were in a storage unit but by Tuesday most of them were gone. The thieves were able to kick in the door. Shrewsbury Police have dusted for finger prints and footprints but community members are still in shock that someone would do this.

News **12/07/12** **6pm** **: 30**

No bail for two Springfield teenagers charged in last weekend's deadly shooting. 19-year-old Julien Holly and 18-year-old Ashawnee Duke both pleaded not guilty to murder during arraignment this morning. Police believe the two suspects were friends with the victim. The three allegedly went to a Springfield public housing complex to rob a man. When the man fought back, Duke fired his gun, accidentally killing Collins. Holly was reportedly the get away driver.

News **12/07/12** **6am** **: 30**

An eastern Massachusetts man has been indicted on 100 counts of child rape and sexual abuse involving children as young as eight days old. 49-year-old John Burbine faces charges including forcible rape, aggravated assault and possession of child pornography. The alleged abuse involved more than a dozen children ranging from eight days to three-and-a-half years old, and occurred in the children' homes across the state. Burbine gained access to the children by working as a babysitter for his wife who allegedly ran an unlicensed day care.

News **12/07/12** **6am** **: 30**

19-year-old Julien Holly of Springfield will be arraigned on murder charges in the death of Keough Collins. He was arrested on Thursday for his alleged role in the city's 12th murder of the year Sgt. John Delaney told 22News... Holly was allegedly involved in the same robbery

that led to Collins' death near Robert Dyer Circle on Sunday. 18-year-old Ashawnee Duke is accused of shooting Collins in the head while they were all committing a robbery.

News **12/08/12** **6pm** **: 30**

Massachusetts State Police continue to be on the look out for drivers with possibly too much holiday spirit. The overnight sobriety checkpoint on West Columbus avenue in Springfield resulted in nearly a dozen arrests. State Police Sgt. John Mulvey told 22News, they arrested 11 drivers, 10 of whom had allegedly been driving while under the influence of alcohol.

News **12/10/12** **6pm** **: 30**

What started out as a bank robbery investigation, turned into the arrests of several drug suspects in Holyoke. Holyoke Police Lt. Isaias Cruz told 22News a man passed a note to a teller and ran out if the First Niagara bank branch on High Street today. An officer was nearby and followed the suspect to an apartment building on Elm Street. When more police showed up, Lt Cruz said five men ran away from them, throwing packets of heroin and cocaine as they ran. Police arrested those five suspects, and also found the alleged bank robber and about 25-hundred dollars in cash. Police recovered 112 packets of heroin.

News **12/10/12** **5pm** **: 30**

Southwick Police are asking for your help tonight. Some vandals targeted a Christmas display on Granville Road. Dick Carbonneau puts up a group of 15' tall wooden reindeer on his property every year, but on Sunday morning, he and his neighbors discovered them damaged. Southwick Police Lt. David Ricardi told 22News that the reindeer were well anchored to the ground, so the vandals cut them at the bottom portion of their legs; causing the deer to fall over. If you have any information, you are asked to call the Southwick Police Department.

News **12/11/12** **5pm** **: 30**

The trial of a Granby woman charged with beating and strangling her wife is scheduled to start in February. Jury selection in the trial of Cara Lee Rintala is expected to begin on February 11th. The trial was scheduled after the prosecutor and defense attorney told a judge that DNA testing in the case had been completed. Rintala is facing a first-degree murder charge in connection with the March 2010 death of Annamarie Cochrane Rintala, who was found dead in the basement of the couple's home. Rintala has pleaded not guilty.

News **12/11/12** **6am** **: 30**

When police in Holyoke tracked down a bank robbery suspect on Monday, they ended up arresting five drug suspects, too. Lt. Isaias Cruz told 22News 23-year-old James Cunha of Chicopee tried to rob the First Niagara Bank branch on High Street. He allegedly passed a note to the teller saying he had a bomb. A nearby officer followed the Cunha to an apartment building on Elm Street and arrested him. Then during the arrest police say five men ran away

from the apartment building throwing bags of drugs behind them. Police arrested 27-year-old Jose Beltran, 18-year-old Luis Torres, 22-year-old Emmanuel Martinez, 20-year-old-Vincente Rodriguez and 18-year-old Jose Maldonado. Police say they recovered 112 packets of heroin and five packets of cocaine.

News **12/12/12** **5pm** **: 30**

Police have arrested a pair of suspects in connection with two convenience store robberies in Springfield and West Springfield. Springfield Police Sgt. John Delaney told 22News that Charles Falcon and Isaisa Mena, both of Springfield, were arrested on Edwards Street following the Tuesday night robberies. According to Delaney, a 7Eleven store at 425 Springfield Street was robbed at gunpoint around 9:15 last night. Less than an hour later, a Cumberland Farms store in West Springfield was robbed at gunpoint. Delaney says officers recovered money allegedly stolen from both robberies.

News **12/13/12** **6pm** **: 30**

Two Connecticut men have been indicted with federal offenses stemming from the theft of more than one hundred firearms from the Smith and Wesson Plant in Springfield. The Justice Department says 27 year old Elliot Perez of Bridgeport allegedly stole three boxes containing 111 firearms from the manufacturing plant in November. 24 year old Michael Murphy, also of Bridgeport, is accused of helped Perez sell the weapons. Police have recovered less than 30 of the stolen firearms. If convicted on all counts, the men face maximum sentences of 35 to 45 years in prison.

News **12/13/12** **6pm** **: 30**

Springfield Police are searching for a man accused of shooting his brother in the leg while high on "angel dust." Sgt. John Delaney told 22news officers were called to 92 High Street in the city's Six Corners neighborhood just before 10 this morning. When officers arrived, the 23 year old victim told them his brother had shot him in the leg and that he thought his brother might be high on PCP. Police are still searching for the unidentified suspect. The victim is expected to be ok.

News **12/13/12** **4:30am** **: 30**

Two people are under arrest this morning, charged in connection to two convenience store robberies in Springfield and West Springfield. Charles Falcon and Isaisa Mena were arrested on Edwards Street in Springfield. Sgt. John Delaney told 22News they allegedly robbed the 7-Eleven at 425 Springfield Street and less than an hour later a Cumberland Farms in West Springfield was robbed. Officers found the money that was allegedly stolen.

News **12/14/12** **5:30pm** **: 30**

A child sexual assault case is prompting Massachusetts lawmakers to re-examine state sex offender laws. Massachusetts lawmakers are reconsidering a bill that would make the names of low-level sex offender's public. The decision follows the arrest of John Burbine who allegedly sexually assaulted children in his wife's daycare business. Burbine was a level 1 sex offender, which means the likelihood of him re-offending was considered to be low risk. House Speaker Robert DeLeo says he will review a proposed law that would give the public access to information about Level 1 sex offenders. Republican lawmakers are also considering legislation that would make changes to the classification system so that sex offenders like Burbine are considered higher risk. They are also looking to increase fines against sex offenders.

News

12/14/12

12pm

: 30

A man was arrested last night, after allegedly shooting his adult stepson several times. A shooting rocked the small Berkshire County town of Lee, Thursday night. An event that's almost unheard in this quaint New England community. State Police Lt. Robert Swift told 22News that a man inside this home at 175 Beartown Mountain Road shot his adult stepson, three times with an assault rifle around 5:45PM. The victim was seriously injured from the gunshot wounds and was rushed to Berkshire Medical Center in Pittsfield. The alleged shooter is also accused of shooting and killing the family dog, which was inside the house at the time. The suspect will be arraigned in Central Berkshire District Court on charges of attempted murder. As for the stepson's condition, police say he made it out of surgery Friday morning, and is expected to be okay.

News

12/14/12

6pm

: 30

Chaos and horror inside Sandy Hook Elementary School in Newtown Connecticut, more than anyone, let alone a child should ever see. And a nightmare no parent should ever have to go through. 24 year old Ryan Lanza opened fire in the school Friday morning the sound of gunshots sending children and teachers running for cover. Teachers and first responders trying to shield the students from the terror around them, leading them outside, telling them to cover their eyes but for many it was too late. The lives of at least 27 people were lost, 18 of them children between the ages of 5 and 10.

News

12/14/12

6pm

: 30

We are in a staging area about 1 mile from the school. 20-year old Adam Lanza allegedly killed his father in Hoboken New Jersey then drove to Newtown CT killed another relative then to the Sandy Hook Elementary school where his mother worked as a teacher. The school is a kindergarten through 4th grade school with about 600 students. Lanza killed 20 elementary school children. 6 adults including his mother, a kindergarten teacher, and then himself. Ct. State police told 22news the shooting was isolated to one section of the school in two rooms. Many of the children killed were in his mother's classroom. Ct. State police Lt. Paul Vance says police rushed into the school as soon as they got there. Governor Daniel Malloy says it's impossible to be ready for something like this.

News

12/15/12

9am

: 30

Here's a timeline of what happened. At 9:40 Friday morning police were called to the Sandy Hook Elementary School; when they got there, most of the victims already dead. The rampage is the nation's second-deadliest school shooting exceeded only by the Virginia Tech massacre that left 33 people dead in 2007. As parents heard the news they were sent to a nearby firehouse which served as a staging area. That's where they waited and hoped to be reunited with their children. Of course we now know 20 children were murdered, and some of those families are now dealing with the loss of a child.

News

12/15/12

9am

: 30

We now have a picture of 20-year-old Adam Lanza. Lanza reportedly killed his mother Nancy Lanza in her home, that's the video you see here, then drove her car to the school, carrying three guns, including a high-powered rifle that he apparently left in the rear seat. Newtown Police Lt. George Sinko said on TODAY this morning it appears Lanza got into the school by shattering some glass near the doors. The motive for the deadly shooting at the elementary school remains a mystery today. It was first reported that Nancy Lanza was a teacher at Sandy Hook Elementary, but now NBC has confirmed the mother was not a teacher at the school but may have been a substitute. Now investigators are trying to establish a connection between the family and the school. Police say Lanza was carrying two handguns when he carried out the attack. After the shooting Lanza turned the gun on himself bringing the death toll to 28.

News

12/15/12

6am

: 30

We are learning more about the gunman this morning. Police say 20 year old Adam Lanza is responsible for the largest elementary school shooting in American History. Lanza killed his mother in Newtown, and then drove to the Sandy Hook Elementary School. Went into the school with guns police say he stole from his mother. He opened fire in two rooms, killing 20 small defenseless children and 6 members of the staff, including the principal. Police are expected to release the names of some of the victims today. CT State Police Lt. Paul Vance told 22News the gunman's motive is unclear at this time. We really may never know why he did it. Former classmates of Lanza said he was very smart, but was not very social in high school. Lanza's brother, 24 year old Ryan Lanza was being questioned by police in Hoboken New Jersey. Police do not consider him a suspect and they say he is being very cooperative. Police have not said how Adam Lanza was killed, but it is likely he took his own life, since the police say they did not fire any shots. But it is the lives of the 27 victims we remember today. 20 of them children, just kids 5, 6,7,8,9 years old.

News

12/16/12

9am

: 30

Springfield Police are looking for two suspects after an armed robbery at the Racing Mart. Captain Larry Brown told 22News the men went to the convenience store on Boston Road were wearing masks and one of them had a handgun. Brown says the men forced the clerk

to the back room and him open the safe. They got away with a lot of cash. No one was injured. If you have any information, call the Springfield Detective Bureau.

News **12/17/12** **6pm** **: 30**

A Hampden County Superior Court jury today found Lastarandre Bell of Springfield guilty of first degree murder. Judge John Ferrara imposed the mandatory sentence of life in prison with no chance for parole. This is video of an earlier court appearance. Bell, who is 37 years old, is convicted of throwing gasoline on his estranged girlfriend's mother, Julie Ann Nieves and lighting her on fire in January of 2007. Bell's first conviction was overturned last year.

News **12/17/12** **5am** **: 30**

Police in Ware have made more than 30 arrests following a year-and-a-half long investigation of drug sales. The suspects were allegedly involved in the sale of illegal drugs to undercover police officers primarily heroin and prescription drugs. Police will continue to search for suspects and they've obtained arrest warrants for 40 people. All suspects arrested during the sweep will be arraigned today.

News **12/18/12** **6pm** **: 30**

Springfield Police last night arrested a man accused of carjacking and pistol whipping a man at a stop sign in the city's McKnight neighborhood. Police charged 27 year old Jason Martinez of Springfield with carjacking and assault with a dangerous weapon. Police Sgt. John Delaney told 22News the 55 year old victim was pistol-whipped, and had his SUV stolen at the intersection of Dorchester Street and St. James Avenue just before 9:30 last night. The victim suffered minor injuries.

News **12/19/12** **5pm** **: 30**

Police in Holyoke are searching for four men with guns who allegedly carjacked a Dominoes Pizza delivery man. Lt. Larry Cournoyer told 22News the men stole the delivery man's car and pizza at 97 Elm Street just after 11 Tuesday night. It's not clear if the men also stole money. The driver was not hurt. The car was found behind apartments on Saint Kolbe Drive in Holyoke a Gray Ford Focus with a Dominoes sign on top. The Suspects are still on the loose. Call Holyoke police if you have any information.

News **12/19/12** **5pm** **: 30**

Nearly \$100,000.00 dollars worth of drugs and cash was seized during a routine traffic stop in Holyoke early this morning. State Police said a trooper on patrol in Holyoke noticed the strong smell of marijuana after pulling a car over near the corner of High and Lyman Streets just before one this morning. A search of the car turned up 15 pounds of marijuana with a street value of \$60,000.00 dollars. Also seized was \$20,000.00 dollars worth of cocaine and \$15,000.00 dollars in cash. The driver, 29 year old Kelly Arzate, and his passenger, 27 year

old Charles Berard, face charges of trafficking cocaine and possession with intent to distribute.

News **12/20/12** **12pm** **: 30**

Springfield Police are searching for suspects in an armed home invasion this morning. Lt. David Martin told 22News that just before midnight, 3 or 4 Hispanic men broke into a house at 123 Edendale Street. They allegedly pistol whipped the man inside and stole cash, jewelry and videogames. Lt. Martin said the suspects then stole the man's gold colored Cadillac Escalade and sped off. All the men were wearing black hoodies. The homeowner did not go to the hospital.

News **12/21/12** **5pm** **: 30**

A former Springfield Putnam Vocational teacher and a school employee have been charged with stealing more than \$30,000 dollars from the school. Ann Berry, a former teacher, and Sherry Subera a senior clerk typist were charged yesterday in connection with the theft. It was discovered after an internal audit investigation. The attorney general's office says that between June and December of 20-10, Suber kept \$14,000 dollars in vocational funds given to her by department heads. Berry is accused of depositing \$16,000 dollars in profits from the school store into her personal bank accounts. The two women will be arraigned in January.

News **12/21/12** **7am** **: 30**

Springfield Police are looking for two suspects after an armed robbery at the Racing Mart. Captain Larry Brown told 22News the men went to the convenience store on Boston Road were wearing masks and one of the men had a handgun. Brown says the men forced the clerk to the back room and him open the safe. They got away with a lot of cash. No one was injured. If you have any information call the Springfield Detective Bureau.

News **12/26/12** **4:30am** **: 30**

27 year old Joshua Larose will be arraigned today in Palmer District Court on charges of burglary, resisting arrest, and assault and battery on a police officer. Palmer Police Sgt. Christopher Burns told 22News Larose broke into multiple homes and businesses over the last four or five months. Sgt. Burns said they tried to arrest Lacrosse on Monday, but he ran through the yard and escape and was later arrested at his mother's house. He allegedly stole jewelry, cash, tools and equipment.

The following is WWLP programming addressing Education during the 4TH quarter of 2012. These issues were addressed through our locally produced news programming.

News 10/03/12 5pm : 30

The UMass system is about see a massive infusion of state funding. Governor Patrick announced Tuesday that UMass will be receiving \$607 million dollars from the state. \$85 million of that will be used to build a state of art science facility on the Amherst campus. The new facility will serve the chemistry and physics department; most of the classes in these departments are held the Hasbrouck building which was built in the 1970's.

News 10/17/12 6pm : 30

There are 29 public colleges and universities in Massachusetts and a new report says more adults and Latino students are enrolling in the public system. The state Department of Higher Education report says Framingham State and UMass Lowell lead the pack in enrollment among adults and Latinos.

News 10/17/12 11pm : 30

The City of Springfield was recognized tonight for its efforts to improve reading proficiency. The "Read! Reading Success by 4th Grade" initiative presented Springfield with a Community Pacesetter certificate. Springfield was recognized for addressing the learning challenges low-income students face.

News 10/19/12 5:30pm : 30

Chicopee public schools received the "Healthier U-S School Challenge Silver Award" today for their nutritious lunch menus. The menus are part of First Lady Michelle Obama's national campaign but it's also popular among kids. These second graders are singing "veggies are good for me, and I eat them every day." And they actually do. Chicopee Public Schools Director of Food Services told 22News healthier, home-made lunches have been part of the district's healthy-eating program for more than a decade now. At least 85% of their students participate in the program that she says offers more benefits than just its nutritious values.

News 11/14/12 11pm : 30

Springfield parents learned tonight about different options their children have for high schools. During an information session at Van Sickle Middle School, eighth graders and their parents met with Springfield public school teachers and administrators. One parent told 22News they wanted to explore all the options before committing to one school because each school offers different programs.

News **11/19/12** **6pm** **: 30**

Undocumented immigrants will get to pay the state's lower in-state tuition rate. Governor Deval Patrick has interpreted a new federal immigration program to let undocumented immigrants pay for college at more affordable tuition rates. Governor Deval Patrick is advising all public higher education schools in Massachusetts to let eligible undocumented immigrants pay in-state tuition rates. At UMass Amherst, undocumented immigrants must pay the \$26,000 dollar out-of-state rate. The decision is based on an executive order signed by President Obama in June. It protects qualifying immigrants who were brought to the U.S. before they turned 16 from deportation. Patrick has interpreted this to mean that immigrants given this "deferred status" by the federal government are eligible for lower in-state tuition rates. But some immigrants oppose giving any citizenship-like benefits to people who skip the immigration process that they legally went through. The lower in-state rates for undocumented students will apply to all 29 of the state's college and university campuses, including UMass Amherst, Westfield State University and Springfield Technical Community College.

News **12/03/12** **5:30pm** **: 30**

School for thousands of public school students is about to get quite a bit longer. Five states announced today they'll add at least 300 hours of learning time in some schools starting next year. Massachusetts along with four other states will take part in the initiative, which is intended to boost student achievement and make U.S. schools more competitive on a global level. The three-year pilot program will affect almost 20-thousand students in 40 schools.

News **12/06/12** **6pm** **: 30**

UMass says it needs close to 500 million dollars to fund the system's educational programs. The University's request comes on the heels of Governor Patrick announcing the state is facing a budget gap. Governor Patrick says closing the \$540 million dollar shortfall will take spending cuts, and taking money from the state's rainy day fund. UMass President Robert Caret is asking for \$480 million and says the eight percent increase in funding will shift the burden from students and families to the state. Caret wants funding to be split 50-50; half from tuition dollars, half from the state.

News **12/06/12** **5am** **: 30**

Parents in Springfield soon may be able to send their kids to a charter school in the city. The state board of education listened to a pitch from two companies Wednesday night. The Phoenix Charter Academy and the Springfield Collegiate Charter School have applied to open schools. The Phoenix founder said their students stay in school until they graduate and the founder of the Springfield school told 22News the benefits of his company's program.

News **12/19/12** **6pm** **: 30**

A Chicopee school is ending a three-year experiment with an all-girls math class after finding no evidence that it improved the students' academic performance. The principal of the Edward Bellamy Middle School, Matthew Francis, says he created the voluntary class for eighth-graders to see if the girls would do better in math if they felt less intimidated and less in competition with boys. Francis now hopes to launch a new "looping" program in which seventh and eighth grade students keep the same teachers for both years.

The following is WWLP programming addressing Environment during the 4th quarter of 2012. These issues were addressed through our locally produced news programming.

News 10/14/12 6pm : 30

The Northampton Community Farm had a lot to celebrate today. Their Farm fest at the community farm in the city's Florence section attracted a large crowd. This weekend marked the second anniversary of the community farm's second growing season. Lilly Lombard's the director of the group known as grow food Northampton.

News 10/16/12 6pm : 30

The fall foliage season is a make or break for a lot of businesses in Franklin County. The wind today didn't help, but there are still plenty of leaves left. The Mohawk Trail draws thousands of leaf peepers each year. Businesses along the trail thrive on tourists. The owner of Hager's farm market told 22News he's hoping for a good turnout this weekend.

News 11/09/12 6pm : 30

Our weather lately has been a bit all over the place here in western Massachusetts. It's been an interesting couple of weeks for weather to say the least. Less than 2 weeks ago we were feeling the affects of hurricane Sandy, with wind, rain and impacts along the coast that will be felt for months. Following that tropical system, a burst of cold air and a nor'easter combined to bring us near freezing temperatures and a coating of snow around the pioneer valley. Normally much of western Massachusetts gets the first inch of snowfall in early December, not early November. While it's not necessarily normal to have a hurricane followed by snow 10 days later, ups and downs in temperature are common this time of year.

News 11/13/12 5pm : 30

After a big temperature drop today, it might be hard to remember how unusually warm we were earlier this year. After a warm end to last year and a warm beginning to this year, a prolonged arming trend has come to an end across the country. Dropping from the 60's to the 40's in a matter of hours Tuesday morning ended our mini warm spell, but it was just last month that a national warming trend came to a close. Beginning in June 2011, the 48 contiguous states started a 16 month long period of warmer than average months. A cooler than normal October nationwide ended that streak. In October the average temperature for the lower 48 united states was 53.9 degrees, and that's a fully three tenths of a degree below long term averages. While the warm weather can be more enjoyable for many of us, the problems that the prolonged heat can bring are cause for some concern. Despite the cooler October overall nationwide, October was still a warmer than average month for New England.

News **11/14/12** **6pm** **: 30**

Organizations across the country are celebrating "America recycles day." Recycling is a changing process across western Massachusetts with many communities switching to single stream recycling. Single stream recycling means you don't need to sort your recyclables, making recycling easier than ever and beginning in April West Springfield will be switching over to Single Stream recycling too. In Holyoke today, Community recycling supporters were honored for their dedication to the global recycling effort which continues to evolve.

News **11/14/12** **5pm** **: 30**

The Pioneer valley had its first coating of snow one week ago. With winter still five weeks away, looking at history tells us we still have a long way to go before we can forget about snow. Last week was a good refresher course in dealing with snow, but we're still four feet away from reaching normal snowfall levels. While spring snows have certainly happened, the majority of snow falls during the first few months of the year. From this graph you can see we quickly ramp up our snowfall by December, with the most snow on average coming in January with an average of over a foot.

News **11/27/12** **5pm** **: 30**

Even after a little bit of snow today, overall November has been very dry. We're just weeks away from winter, but we're dealing with a problem that's usually a concern in spring and summer; brush fires. Snow today brought some needed moisture that we haven't had much of this month. We've had little over half an inch of rain this November, which puts us on track for having the driest month of an already dry year.

News **12/06/12** **5pm** **: 30**

November was our driest month of the year. It was so dry that at our local climate reporting site at Bradley International Airport in Windsor Locks, Connecticut, it was the driest November on record. In western Massachusetts we had only half an inch of rain and melted snow, more than 3 inches less than normal tying the record for record lowest rainfall. Our dry November follows a year that brought moderate drought to the area, while some people are concerned, they hope we make up the moisture in snow this winter.

The following is WWLP programming addressing Government during the 4th quarter of 2012. These issues were addressed through our locally produced news programming.

News 10/01/12 6pm : 30

It's a debate that's important to both Republicans and Democrats nationwide. Tonight, Senator Scott Brown and his Democratic challenger debate the issues for one hour. The economy has been and will continue to be a big topic in this race. But tonight, given the unrest overseas, both candidates will be asked to give us a sense of how they'll vote on national defense and trade policy issues. That's what some thousands of people gathering here at UMass Lowell are expecting to hear; some of them hoping to decide which candidate to support. If polls are accurate, this is a close race where every vote counts. Several students in the area from local schools and universities will be in the audience tonight hoping to hear something that impacts their future for the better.

News 10/02/12 5am : 30

In state politics it was a lively exchange at UMass Lowell in the second televised debate between Massachusetts republican Senator Scott brown and his democratic challenger, Elizabeth Warren. Monday night's debate was a free-wheeling "Meet the Press" type discussion Hosted by NBC's David Gregory. Senator Brown and Warren each laid out how they believe they are non-partisan.

News 10/06/12 9am : 30

The state senate race is heating up as Democrat Elizabeth Warren and Republican Scott Brown receive support from some well known public figures. Edward Kennedy's niece Caroline Kennedy and Boston Mayor Thomas Menino joined Warren in Charlestown Friday at an assisted living facility for seniors. Kennedy told the group that Warren would fight for seniors and middle class families. Meanwhile in Boston former Massachusetts Governor Williams Weld endorsed incumbent Republican Brown. Weld said Brown is open minded and not motivated by partisan politics. The next televised debate between the two candidates will be October 10th here in Springfield.

News 10/10/12 6pm : 30

The U.S. Senate debate takes center stage in downtown Springfield tonight and 22News has your covered with live team coverage. It's the race that's garnered nationwide attention, the race between Senator Scott Brown and Elizabeth Warren. This is the seat once held by Democrat Ted Kennedy. Scott Brown won the seat in a special election after Kennedy died; tonight he's hoping to show voters why he should be re-elected while Elizabeth Warren tries to keep the seat in the hands of the Democrats. Preparations for tonight's highly anticipated

event have been underway since early this morning. Springfield Public Forum is a sponsor of tonight's debate and said there will be no opening statements from the candidates; they will have a closing that will be decided by a coin toss. The questions were prepared by event organizers, but the ideas for the questions were submitted by residents through several different venues. Political Consultant Tony Cignoli told 22News the candidates should stick to the topics that will win over the growing number of undecided voters.

News **10/12/12** **7am** **: 30**

Massachusetts residents have enjoyed three years with no new taxes or fees. In the years since the recession, state lawmakers pledged to support the recovery by not adding any new taxes or fees; a pledge that might end in 2013. House Speaker Robert Deleo told the State House News Service, he can't promise the next budget won't include added taxes and fees. Governor Deval Patrick has proposed raising taxes on cigarettes and expanding the scope of the state's five-cent bottle redemption law. He has also proposed adding a tax on candy and soda. House republican leaders oppose any new taxes or fees. And although the economy is slowing many people did tell 22News, they are barely getting by and any hit to the wallet will hurt.

News **10/17/12** **5:30pm** **: 30**

Last night's presidential debate was a big hit on social media. The 90-minute nationally televised exchange generated more than 12 million comments on Twitter and Facebook. The debate was the top political event of all time in social media and placed third among the top social media events of any kind, bested only by this year's Grammy Awards and MTV Video Music Awards. Women dominated the social media conversation about the debate. Some 54% of all the comments came from women, 46% from men.

News **10/17/12** **5pm** **: 30**

Enrico "Jack" Villamaino pleaded not guilty to 12 charges stemming from a voter fraud scheme. The Hampden County District Attorney alleges everything from Jack Villamaino getting married so his wife couldn't testify against him, thinking about escaping to Switzerland to egging on the police by posting the movie poster from "Catch me if you can" on his Facebook page. Jack Villamaino with a new full beard, handcuffed and shackled was arraigned in Superior Court in Springfield today. A grand jury indicted Villamaino on 12 charges last week; nine of them for absentee voter fraud. He faces up to 60 years in jail if convicted on all counts. District Attorney Mark Mastroianni claims Villamaino and his co-defendant, his new wife Courtney Llewellyn worked together to change the party affiliation of more than 200 registered voters in East Longmeadow. The goal, Mastroianni alleges, was to have Villamaino fill out and cast those ballots for himself. Villamaino was a candidate for state representative at the time of the alleged scheme.

News **10/17/12** **5pm** **: 30**

Tonight's the deadline to register, if you want to vote in the November election. If you have moved within the same town since you last voted you may have to re-register. If you've moved out of town you do have to re-register. If you are going to be out of town, or physically unable to vote on Election Day you have until November 5th to fill out an absentee ballot. Most town clerk offices will be open until 8 tonight for registration.

News **10/19/12** **5pm** **: 30**

22News will broadcast a one-hour Decision 2012 special tonight night featuring Brown and Warren. They will each be given individual, back-to-back, half-hours of uninterrupted airtime. 22News traveled to Eastern Massachusetts today to talk to the candidates about the issues. Both talked about their plans to bring jobs to Western Massachusetts, to cut the federal deficit, education and healthcare.

News **10/21/12** **9am** **: 30**

Election Day is November 6th, and the Senate race here in Massachusetts shows no signs of letting up. Senator Scott Brown's Democratic challenger Elizabeth Warren will be in Northampton today for a rally at Smith Vocational and Technical High School. Congressman Richie Neal of Springfield will try to fire up her supporters starting at 2:30. Senator Brown will be at UMass Lowell at 10:30 this morning for a rally alongside Senator Kelly Ayotte of New Hampshire. Anyone who wants to go is encouraged to RSVP on Brown's website.

News **11/02/12** **5pm** **: 30**

It's just four days until Election Day and candidates in one of the most watched state senate races in the country are making a push for votes in Western Massachusetts. 53% of registered voters are independent in Massachusetts. Many of them still haven't made up their minds. But no matter the party affiliation, voters we spoke with want politicians who will work together in Washington. Former Springfield Mayor Charlie Ryan crossed party lines when he endorsed Senator Scott Brown, but says, that's the way it should be. Also on the campaign trail retiring Representative Barney Frank stopped by Elizabeth Warren's campaign offices in Springfield and Northampton today to try and convince people to vote for her.

News **11/04/12** **11pm** **: 30**

There are less than three days until the election. The US Senate race in Massachusetts is becoming increasingly important on the national stage. The Brown /Warren race may be the hottest senate race in the nation and the attention to Western Massachusetts is being felt. With just days left until the election Senator Scott Brown made several stops in Western Massachusetts Friday and Democratic challenger Elizabeth Warren held a rally in Springfield on Saturday. In a race that is so tight and so important not only for Massachusetts but for the United States, increasingly the Western Massachusetts vote has become more crucial. Republicans want to seize the Senate majority in Tuesday's election. However, some races don't look promising for Republicans making Massachusetts even more important. In part because of Hurricane Sandy the final debate between the two candidates had to be canceled

making Springfield the final debate. For some in Western Mass, they feel like they're not being forgotten this time around. This has already become the nation's most expensive Senate race with a lot riding on both candidates.

News **11/05/12** **5:30pm** **: 30**

State representative's candidates are asking for your vote tomorrow. The 22News I-Team went through every vote in the state house from January to August. We found that many of our local state representatives were showing up and voting compared to the rest of the state. South Hadley's John Scibak missed 13 votes. Springfield's Cheryl Coakley Rivera missed 10. Springfield's Sean Curran missed 9. Ludlow's Thomas Petrolati missed 8 as did Orange's Denise Andrews. This is not the amount of days missed, since roll call is not officially taken everyday. The State House generally has multiple votes on the same day. To see all of the state representatives voting attendance records, log onto wwlp.com.

News **11/06/12** **6pm** **: 30**

It has been a very busy day for polls in the Springfield area. I'm here at the Frederick Harris School where if you take a look at the ballots counted it's now at Since there are two forms the number of votes is half of that. This precinct though has about 1700 voters so that's more than of registered voters. The warden from this precinct has been doing this for 34 years and she said this has been a very busy election day all day. Some polling locations though had long lines out the door with people waiting to cast their ballot it's something that election officials expected and have been trying to keep under control all day.

News **11/06/12** **6pm** **: 30**

A busy day up in Franklin County as well, a very busy day for volunteers here in Greenfield. As of 4 o'clock today, 43% of registered voters have stopped by the polling station at Greenfield High School. Lines were long during what many people would consider a down time around 3, 4 o'clock. At this rate, the Town Clerk said this year's voter turnout would surpass 2008's turnout rate, which was about 70%. Many voters told 22News they are surprised to see many young people come out to vote. But regardless of age, they were hopeful that their vote would make a difference in Senate and presidential races.

News **11/06/12** **5pm** **: 30**

Here in the Pioneer Valley there are large crowds turning out to vote. It has been a busy day for voters and wardens with a high voter turnout so far here. I'm at the Frederick Harris School in Springfield which is precinct and as you can see by the machine here there have been about ballots cast but since there are two forms you take half of that. But considering this precinct has about 1600 voters and a few more hours till the polls close that's pretty good. There have been long lines at many polling places. Areas of Springfield and Chicopee actually had problems because some of the ballots were too big for the tabulators. That caused a little bit of confusion and back up but Springfield's election commissioner said they were able to figure it out.

News **11/06/12** **5pm** **: 30**

Northampton voters will cast two ballots today. The Northampton city council voted to hold a special election today after the city missed the deadline to include a municipal question on the state ballot. Among the planned changes in the municipal proposal is increasing the mayor's term from 2 to 4 years. The city clerk says she needed to staff more people for the special election and the mistake could cost Northampton anywhere between \$10,000 and \$12,000.

News **11/06/12** **12pm** **: 30**

It's Election Day 2012, when we get a chance to select the next President of the United States and make our choices on the state and local level as well. Most of the polling locations across the country opened at 7 this morning, but voters in Granby were already casting their ballots at 6am. This isn't the first time the town has done this. In fact, this presidential election marks the third time Granby opened their polls earlier than most. At 6am voters started to come in waves as word got out that there was no line. But it was really the convenience that drew them to the East Meadow School. Some voters told 22News it was very easy to stop by the polls before work, others said they're up early in the morning so they were happy to just get the voting out of the way. And then there were some new voters exercising their right for the first time, before heading to school.

News **11/06/12** **11pm** **: 30**

Secretary of State William Galvin is predicting about three-quarters of voters will cast ballots in the election, matching the turnout in the 2008 election. Galvin projects 3.1 million of the state's roughly 4.2 million registered voters, about 73 percent, will go to the polls tomorrow. Galvin is focused on keeping lines moving, but noted anyone in line by the time the polls close at 8 pm, can still vote.

News **11/07/12** **5:30pm** **: 30**

Elizabeth Warren will become the first woman to represent Massachusetts in the U.S Senate. Massachusetts has elected its first woman senator in history and it couldn't have been done without the woman vote. Elizabeth Warren managed to beat Scott Brown by more than 10 points among women. And you could see that support at Warren's campaign party last night looking at the faces in the crowd. Of course, she also benefited from the fact that this was a presidential election year. Nearly 90% of people who voted for President Barack Obama also voted for Warren. Leading up to the election, Warren aggressively attacked Brown's voting record against access to contraception and equal pay for equal work.

News **11/07/12** **5:30pm** **: 30**

Overall, the election could not have gone much worse for Republicans in New England. GOP presidential candidate and former Massachusetts Governor Mitt Romney did not capture a single electoral vote here. Senator Scott Brown was cast aside by Massachusetts voters in

favor of Democrat Elizabeth Warren. Elsewhere in New England, Republicans lost every major election for Congress and governor.

News **11/29/12** **6pm** **: 30**

If U.S. Senator John Kerry were to resign to take a position in President Obama's Cabinet voters would decide who will serve out his term. Though the governor is interested in having stronger appointment powers over U.S. Senate seat vacancies, it seems he's the only one at the State House. Governor Deval Patrick says he's in favor of a bill that eliminates the need for a special election if U.S. Senator John Kerry resigns. Before 2004, state law allowed governors to fill a vacant Senate seat until the next biennial election. U.S. Senator John Kerry is being considered by President Barack Obama to fill a cabinet-level position. If Kerry resigns, Governor Patrick could appoint an interim Senator until a special election is called. But there's no interest in the Legislature to get rid of the special election and give Patrick stronger appointment power. If Kerry does leave, some names have been floating around for the interim-Senate position, including former Governor Michael Dukakis and Vicki Kennedy, late-Senator Ted Kennedy's wife. But Patrick won't speculate on who he'll consider for an interim Senate seat until the decision is before him, except to say that the list will be long. According to Senator Kerry's office, he plans to seek re-election when his term ends in 2014.

News **12/01/12** **9am** **: 30**

Senator-Elect Elizabeth Warren will visit Western Massachusetts today. Warren's office says she will be meeting with people all across the state during the month of December to have a chance to thank those who supported her election. Warren will stop by Theodore's Restaurant on Worthington Street this afternoon. Theodore's sustained some damage during last week's natural gas explosion. Senator-Elect Warren also has stops planned in Worcester and Fall River this weekend.

News **12/02/12** **7am** **: 30**

Sen.-elect Elizabeth Warren is vowing to join with other Democrats in Washington to limit the use of the filibuster; a move she said will help break gridlock by curbing the ability of Republicans to block votes. Warren says she'll vote to require Senators who want to filibuster to stand on the Senate floor and speak continuously instead of merely threatening to do so. Minority parties in the Senate use filibusters to slow or kill legislation. They can only be ended by 60 votes. Democrats will command a 55-45 majority in the chamber in the new session.

News **12/04/12** **6pm** **: 30**

Massachusetts is feeling some of the early effects of the fiscal cliff. Governor Deval Patrick downplayed the severity of these budget cuts, but municipal advocates say they will contest them because of the potential losses to cities and towns. Slow revenue growth has prompted Governor Deval Patrick to propose hundreds of millions of dollars in budget cuts to address a \$540 million dollar budget gap. Patrick outlined a plan to cut \$225 million dollars from state

agencies, eliminate 700 new state employee jobs and ask the Legislature for the power to cut another \$9 million dollars from city and town budgets - Something municipal advocates plan to fight. Though state tax collections are higher than this time last year, they're not growing as fast as projected. Governor Patrick blamed the lagging revenues on the so-called fiscal cliff talks in Washington. He called on Congress and the president to negotiate a balanced deal to address the federal deficit by the end of the year, or else Massachusetts could see more reductions. As a result of these cuts, Governor Patrick has reduced courtroom budgets, cut special education and drawn \$200 million dollars from the state's rainy day fund. But Patrick says most programs and services will receive no less funding than last year.

News **12/05/12** **6am** **: 30**

Governor Patrick has ordered spending cuts across state government in response to slower-than-expected growth in state tax collections. The governor outlined his plan to cut \$225,000,000 million dollars from state agencies, eliminate 700 new state employee jobs, and ask the Legislature for the power to cut another 9 million dollars from city and town budgets. The Governor also plans to take \$200 million from the state's rainy day fund. Patrick says he believes the shortfall in revenue is largely due to worries over the looming "fiscal cliff" if President Obama and Congress are unable to reach a deal.

News **12/08/12** **11pm** **: 30**

\$78 Million dollars: that's how much Scott Brown and Elizabeth Warren spent combined in an attempt to win your vote last month. That's according to a Federal Election Commission report. Brown spent about \$37 million on his unsuccessful re-election bid. The campaign said \$150,000 to \$200,000 would actually be left after some final bills are paid. Warren's campaign spent \$40.5 million through the last reporting period. The senator-elect is asking supporters to help her clear about \$400,000 dollars in campaign debt.

News **12/13/12** **6pm** **: 30**

There's been a major shakeup in the Patrick administration. When Governor Deval Patrick won his re-election campaign in 2010, he asked his cabinet for a two-year commitment. Now that those two years are over, some of his closest advisors are parting ways. Governor Deval Patrick says goodbye to nearly half his cabinet. Administration and Finance Secretary Jay Gonzalez, Public Safety Secretary Mary Elizabeth Heffernan, Education Secretary Paul Reville and Health and Human Services Secretary Judyann Bigby are stepping down as the governor's advisors. Secretary Bigby leaves under the cloud of a state lab scandal and meningitis outbreak that happened under her watch. During the summer, Patrick asked his cabinet to re-commit to two years of service, or depart so as to avoid piecemeal resignations. Those who decided to depart stood in front of four new secretaries who will be their replacements. Many of the secretaries I spoke with said they are leaving the cabinet to seek other opportunities and that pay better. They will stay on in the administration for a couple of more weeks to help with the transition.

News

12/17/12

11pm

: 30

The state's top budget forecasters are predicting weak economic growth for Massachusetts. With state tax collections growing slowly under a cloud of economic uncertainty, members of the Republican Caucus say the state need to tighten its budget next year. GOP lawmakers are calling for more fiscal discipline following the grim economic outlook delivered by top budget leaders this week. Revenue estimates for fiscal year 2014 range from a little more than \$22 billion to about \$22.5 billion dollars. Republicans believe the state should base the state budget on the lower estimate. Revenues are growing slower than projected, but state Revenue Commissioner Amy Pitter said they're expected to improve in 2014. Nevertheless, Pitter warned that the global and national economies make it difficult to forecast revenue with any certainty. Uncertainties related to global economic slowdown, particularly in the euro zone economies, and U.S. fiscal policies continue to be sources of risk on economic growth. Last week, Governor Deval Patrick outlined a plan to cut \$225 million dollars from state agencies, withdraw \$200 million dollars from the state rainy day fund and reduce city and town budgets by \$9 million dollars. The latter requires approval from the state Legislature.

News

12/18/12

5am

: 30

The town of East Longmeadow will fill two open seats on the Board of Selectmen. Voters will choose a successor for Enrico "Jack" Villamaino... who resigned in August. He was arrested and charged in a voting fraud scandal related to his candidacy for state representative this year. Debra Boronski and Bryan Doe are on the ballot for the selectman seat he left. Peter Punderson and Angela Thorpe are competing to fill the remainder of the retired selectman Jim Driscoll's term through April. He resigned for an unrelated reason.

News

12/19/12

6pm

: 30

Governor Deval Patrick is having private talks to potentially replace U.S. Senator John Kerry if he's appointed Secretary of State. Governor Patrick didn't name any names, but he said he is having confidential talks with candidates to fill Senator John Kerry's seat on a temporary and long term basis. Governor Deval Patrick is beginning private talks with possible candidates to replace U.S. Senator John Kerry. Kerry is considered a frontrunner to become the next Secretary of State. As governor, Patrick has the power to make an interim appointment to fill a vacant U.S. Senate seat until a special election is held. When U.S. Senator Ted Kennedy died in 2009, former Governor Michael Dukakis was favored to temporarily replace him. Dukakis says it's unlikely he'll accept an interim Senate position because of his teaching obligations at UCLA and Northeastern University, but he didn't rule it out. Pittsfield state Senator Benjamin Downing, Congressman Mike Capuano and Congressman Ed Markey are all Democrats eyeing Kerry's seat if there's a special election. If Senator Scott Brown decides to run, he would probably be the Republican candidate. There's also speculation that late-Senator Ted Kennedy's wife, Vicki Kennedy, is eyeing the U.S. Senate seat, as well as Hollywood actor Ben Affleck.

News

12/21/12

6pm

: 30

President Obama has nominated Massachusetts Senator John Kerry to be the next Secretary of State. Kerry will need to be confirmed by the Senate, but is seen as a strong candidate with wide foreign policy experience. If confirmed, he'll replace Hillary Clinton who is stepping down in January. The former presidential candidate is currently the chairman of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee. President Obama called Kerry the perfect choice to guide American diplomacy in the years ahead.

News

12/22/12

11pm

: 30

Massachusetts voters just went through the most expensive and arguably hardest-fought U-S Senate campaign in state history, and now we're looking at another one in the next four to six months. Governor Patrick's first order of business is to choose an "interim" Senator who won't seek the office in a special election. But once John Kerry's confirmed as Secretary of State, we're in for a full blown, yet condensed election cycle, including party primaries.

The following is WWLP programming addressing Health-Smoking during the 4TH quarter of 2012. These issues were addressed through our locally produced news programming.

News 10/06/12 9am : 30

Doctors are trying to reassure back-pain patients who are worried about getting meningitis from steroid shots. The reason for the alarm, a meningitis outbreak has killed at least five people and sickened more than 40 others in seven states. The outbreak has been linked to apparently fungus-contaminated steroid solution from a Framingham specialty pharmacy. Authorities suspect 17,000 vials of an injectable steroid were produced at that pharmacy. But doctors say injections are safe when done correctly with sterile drugs.

News 10/09/12 6pm : 30

The number of people sickened by a deadly meningitis outbreak has now reached 119 cases, including 11 deaths. The centers for disease control and prevention updated the count today. Officials have tied the outbreak of rare fungal meningitis to steroid shots for back pain. The steroid was made by a specialty pharmacy in Framingham. The New England compounding company voluntarily surrendered its license today. The state board of pharmacy chose not to take further action against the company.

News 10/11/12 5:30pm : 30

Giving children access to the dental care that they need; Holyoke Health Center is going to add a pediatric dental center to its building. It's the last part of a \$25 million project that started ten years ago. Congressmen Richard Neal and John Olver were there today. The center will give both access and education to parents of young children.

News 10/16/12 6pm : 30

The new statewide health information exchange got underway with the top executive's endorsement. "Governor Patrick, we have received your medical record." Governor Deval Patrick's medical records were transferred electronically from Massachusetts General Hospital in Boston to Baystate Medical Center. The new exchange system is called the "HI-way," short for HEALTH INFORMATION. The system will allow any registered healthcare provider access to a patient's complete medical records. Organizers say this connectivity will improve quality, safety and efficiency and reduce costs in healthcare.

News 10/23/12 12pm : 30

Opponents of a state ballot question that would allow marijuana to be used for medical purposes are urging voters to reject it. Legislators and law enforcement were among those

who spoke on the steps of the state capital Monday. The ballot question would allow patients with cancer, AIDS and glaucoma to register to buy marijuana at dispensaries. Opponents fear the measure is vague with too few safeguards to keep the drugs away from children. Supporters say marijuana is a proven pain management tool for people with debilitating conditions.

News **11/06/12** **6am** **: 30**

Hospitals may be able to do more to help identify patients who will smoke while hospitalized. A study of more than 5-thousand smokers admitted to Mass. General Hospital in Boston finds some are more likely to light up than others. Those patients tend to be younger don't have any plans to quit, and have more intense cigarette cravings. The study suggests routinely ordering nicotine replacement therapy for smokers might be another way to curb smoking on hospital grounds.

News **11/07/12** **5pm** **: 30**

Voters approved the move to legalize medical marijuana Tuesday. Massachusetts may have voted to legalize medical marijuana, but two states legalized the use of marijuana. It's showing a change in attitudes toward the use of the drug. Doctors will soon be able to prescribe marijuana in Massachusetts. It's just the latest step in the country towards regulation of the drug instead of reform. And there was strong support for the change with 63% of the people voting yes on ballot question 3. Medical marijuana is intended to help people cope with illness like cancer and AIDS. The hope is also that the state can regulate and prevent the illegal distribution of the drug. Colorado and Washington voters actually legalized marijuana in their respective states. It's something some in Massachusetts think full legalization could happen here one day as well. You won't be able to pick up a prescription for marijuana tomorrow. Starting January 1st doctors will be able to recommend the use. The Department of Public Health will then define regulations for dispensaries and there will be 35 initial dispensaries throughout the state.

News **11/08/12** **7am** **: 30**

Exposure to concentrated cigarette smoke like in vehicles or bars impairs breathing within 20 minutes. Greek researchers tested the effects of this type of secondhand smoke on 15 healthy people. After only 20 minutes they experienced airway resistance even though they showed no feelings of discomfort during the test.

News **11/15/12** **5:30pm** **: 30**

Smoking is Massachusetts' number one cause of preventable death and disease. 22 News State House Reporter Christine Lee explains how much the state loses by not fully addressing this epidemic. 8,000 people in Massachusetts die each year from smoking. The Department of Public Health says smoking-related diseases account for 10 percent of all health care costs in the state, which amounts to a full \$4.3 billion each year. 77% of smokers want to quit, but anti-tobacco advocates say there is a lack of funding for smoking cessation

programs. They're calling for higher tobacco pricing laws combined with more community outreach programs. Not funding a tobacco control program is like having a vaccine against a serious disease and walking away from it. Anti-tobacco advocates failed to get lawmakers to pass a \$1.25 tax hike on cigarettes this year, but they intend to re-launch efforts to get similar legislation passed next session. They encourage anyone who wants to quit smoking to call the Massachusetts Smokers' Helpline at 1-800-QUIT-NOW.

News **11/28/12** **5pm** **: 30**

It's the latest step in the effort to crackdown on tobacco companies...they now must admit publicly that they lied. The health detriments of smoking are nothing new. For years and years, people have known that smoking is bad for you. But now, tobacco companies must publicly admit that they lied and deliberately deceived people about the dangers of smoking. It's all part of a federal lawsuit involving big tobacco companies and the government. For decades, federal and state authorities have been cracking down on advertising and labeling on cigarettes and this is the next step. This will also be part of the statement, here is the truth, smoking kills, on average, 1200 Americans, everyday. It's still not clear if tobacco companies will appeal the ruling.

News **12/02/12** **7am** **: 30**

Flu season is off to surprisingly strong start, the CDC says flu activity increased significantly thanksgiving week. Doctor's visits for flu-like symptoms were above normal in five US regions, and doctors across the country say they haven't seen so many patients for flu this early in the season since 2004. Flu is being reported in every state except Vermont. Doctors say if you haven't gotten a flu shot, you should do so as soon as possible.

News **12/07/12** **11pm** **: 30**

Marijuana's been grown in America since colonial times. Federal authorities didn't crack down on the drug until after the repeal of prohibition in 1933. Northampton lawyer Dick Evans has advocated repealing marijuana prohibition for close to 40 years.

News **12/13/12** **5pm** **: 30**

The Tobacco industry is taking a smoke break. Tobacco companies have introduced almost no new cigarettes or tobacco products in the US in more than 18 months. But it's not a voluntary pause; the FDA is taking extra care in reviewing new product applications for public health risks. It's a move some non-smokers approve of.

News **12/14/12** **5am** **: 30**

The Tobacco industry is taking a smoke break. Tobacco companies have introduced almost no new cigarettes or tobacco products in the US in more than 18 months. But it's not a voluntary pause; the FDA is taking extra care in reviewing new product applications for public health risks.

News

12/21/12

12pm

: 30

Another study examines how marijuana may reduce pain. A small study from the UK of 12 healthy men found differences in brain responses to pain when they were given pills containing THC, the psychoactive ingredient in marijuana. The pill did not act like conventional pain medication. It worked well in some subjects but not others. Researchers say future brain imaging could help identify which patients would benefit most.

The following is WWLP programming addressing Jobs during the 4TH quarter of 2012. These issues were addressed through our locally produced news programming.

News 10/03/12 5:30pm : 30

The parent company of the Mohegan Sun casinos says it will pay between \$8 million and \$10 million in severance costs as it cuts 282 jobs in Connecticut right now. Another 46 jobs cut at the end of the month. The Mohegan Tribal Gaming Authority said in a regulatory filing that most of the costs will be recorded in its fourth quarter in cash payments. Mohegan had Revenue of \$8.37 billion in the fiscal year that ended June 30. That's down 7% from the previous year.

News 10/06/12 9am : 30

The country's unemployment rate fell to 7.8% last month, the lowest it's been in nearly four years. The nation's unemployment rate dipped to its lowest point in years. But how accurate is that figure in Greater Springfield? Several people told 22News tonight that they don't know anyone who's looking for work. But Kevin Lynn, manager of Business Services at FutureWorks told 22News they're seeing more people looking for work, 30% more in August. And it's a similar story in other parts of the state: Kerin Gibbs told 22News she has friends in sales and accounting that have been out of work for a year, with kids to care for and bills to pay. And even for those who are just starting out, many find the job search bleak.

News 11/02/12 12pm : 30

The unemployment rate inched up a bit in October. The labor department reports US employers added 171,000 jobs last month. But the unemployment rate ticked up to 7.9% from 7.8% in September. This is the labor department's last look at hiring before next week's presidential election. President Obama goes into Election Day with the highest unemployment rate of any incumbent since FDR in the 1930's.

News 11/08/12 4:30am : 30

The deadly meningitis outbreak, it may cost nearly 900 workers their jobs. They work at Ameridose and its marketing arm. The Massachusetts plant has the same founders as a pharmacy tied to the outbreak. Ameridose says it hopes the layoffs will be temporary. Regulators last week asked Ameridose to remain closed until November 19th. The outbreak, linked to tainted steroid shots, is blamed for hundreds of meningitis cases, 19 of them deadly.

News 11/08/12 4:30am : 30

It may be a sign that the US job market is on the mend. Weekly jobless claims fell by eight-thousand last week. However, some experts say that's because unemployment offices couldn't receive benefit claim applications after Superstorm Sandy, so it's not a permanent

improvement. Other experts say though if unemployment applications stay below three-hundred sixty thousand consistently, then that means the economy is recovering.

News **11/09/12** **6am** **: 30**

A Massachusetts company with the same founders as a pharmacy tied to the deadly meningitis outbreak says it's laying off nearly all its employees. 650 people lost their jobs at Ameridose and 140 were laid off from the company's marketing arm. Ameridose says it hopes the layoffs will be temporary. Regulators last week asked Ameridose to remain closed until November 19th. The outbreak linked to tainted steroid shots is blamed for hundreds of meningitis cases and 31 deaths.

News **11/19/12** **6pm** **: 30**

Labor officials say the Pioneer Valley's aging workforce is retiring faster than they are being replaced. New labor research predicts there will a shortage in the number of skilled workers. The Executive Office of Labor and Workforce Development says nearly half of the region's workforce is 45 or older. And one in ten people, who can work in the valley, don't have a high school diploma. Precision manufacturing is one of the many industries facing a shortage of skilled workers. STCC student Esteban Ortiz is working toward an associate degree in mechanical engineering.

News **11/21/12** **12pm** **: 30**

Mohegan Sun has reached a deal with dozens of labor unions that would allow future employees of a potential Palmer casino to form a union and negotiate contracts. The Mohegan Tribal Gaming Authority finalized the agreement with the Pioneer Valley AFL-CIO to cover employees at a casino it wants to build on a 150-acre site just off the Massachusetts Turnpike in Palmer. The move could give the casino company, which runs Mohegan Sun in Connecticut and another casino in Pennsylvania, an advantage in the pursuit of the only casino license in western Massachusetts.

News **11/26/12** **12pm** **: 30**

Human service workers protested outside the governor's office today. Human services workers were promised a wage increase in the state budget, but they say the governor stands in the way of letting those increases happen. A lot of the people I work with have to work two jobs to make ends meet. Human service workers are protesting outside Governor Deval Patrick's office. They say the administration has blocked 2 percent salary increases reserved for them in the 2013 state budget. Earning on average \$12/hour, they say a little extra money could go a long way. Because state tax revenues have come in lower than projected, Governor Patrick says a number of measures have been taken to prepare for potential budget cuts. But he says no final decision on distributing funds from the state's Salary Reserve has been made. But advocates say 29,000 human service workers across the state were promised to receive a salary increase in time for the holidays. With \$1 billion

in the state's rainy day fund, they say a modest salary increase shouldn't have to be delayed. If human service workers were to get this salary increase, it would be their first in five years.

News **11/28/12** **5:30pm** **: 30**

A compromise to avoid the fiscal cliff may leave thousands of people in Western Massachusetts with no unemployment benefits. Thousands of people who are out of work in Western Massachusetts received letters this week letting them know their unemployment benefits will run out just after Christmas. Many of the same faces are at the Future Works career center in Springfield every day hoping to find a job. And many more will be in that position unless Congress renews a program designed to help the long-term unemployed. At least 45,000 Massachusetts residents are set to lose their benefits December 29th. And at 46 year's old she's competing with other younger workers looking for the same jobs and also struggling. Congress has extended long term unemployment benefits several times in the past, but with drastic cuts needed to avoid the fiscal cliff it might be a tougher sell this time around. Without the federal programs, residents qualify for only up to 30 weeks of benefits.

News **11/29/12** **5:30pm** **: 30**

Jobless Americans have collected more than half a trillion dollars in state and federal unemployment benefits over the past five years. That's according to a Congressional Budget Office report released Wednesday. Looking ahead, the price of continuing the federal safety net will be the subject of intense debate in Congress. Congress first enacted the federal benefits package in June 2008. But the federal checks are scheduled to stop at the end of the year. Lawmakers will decide whether to extend the deadline to file for federal benefits beyond year's end as part of the fiscal cliff negotiations.

News **12/03/12** **5am** **: 30**

A report released today finds that youth unemployment is soaring. A new report finds that youth unemployment has been steadily rising nationwide in the past decade. Nearly 6.5 million American teens and young adults are out of school and out of work. The Annie E. Casey Foundation says this trend leads to chronic underemployment for kids as they transition to adulthood. Lawmakers say the solution lies in promoting vocational schools to fill technical skills jobs in manufacturing, which have tens of thousands of job openings in Massachusetts. At the same time, school drop out rates in Massachusetts are reportedly down, yet the unemployment rate among youth is up. The Massachusetts Budget and Policy center says finding that first job has become much more difficult for young people than ten years ago.

News **12/03/12** **5am** **: 30**

Police in Hadley need your help this morning to find a man who allegedly assaulted a disabled woman at the Wal-Mart on Russell Street. It happened around 2:15 Sunday afternoon. Police say this white man, somewhere between 35 to 45 years old, and around 6 feet tall was involved in the incident. He was with a woman around the same age, and two

children. If you have any information about the incident call Hadley Police at the number on your screen 584-0883.

News **12/07/12** **5pm** **: 30**

Last month's jobless rate fell to its lowest level in four years. Experts told 22News reporter Anaridis Rodriguez if the trend keeps up, it could give the housing market a boost. The Labor Department says 146,000 jobs were added in the month of November, and the unemployment rate dipped from 7.9% to 7.7%. More people worked in retail, professional and business services, and health care. Northampton Real Estate Broker David Murphy says more jobs means more home sales. This year, home sales in his agency are up 26%. Murphy says he keeps track of employment trends, as lenders look for borrowers with steady incomes.

News **12/10/12** **12pm** **: 30**

Massachusetts lags behind most of the rest of the country when it comes to equal pay for women. The American Association of University Women reports that women earned 77% of what men took home in median full-time pay. The Boston Globe reports that the Bay State ranks 37th in the nation, behind every other New England state when it comes to equal pay for women. Women working full time in Massachusetts earned a median annual salary of just over \$46,000 dollars in 2011. That was nearly \$10,000 more than the median income for women nationwide. but considerably less than the take-home pay of Massachusetts men whose annual median salary was just over \$60,000 dollars a year.

News **12/12/12** **6am** **: 30**

MGM and Penn National each told residents that 80% to 90% of the workers they hire will live locally if Springfield gets the license. Both developers said they'll offer thousands of construction and permanent jobs, but residents wanted to know about the quality of the jobs and the benefits. 22News talked to one Las Vegas resident who works at a casino. He said he makes \$17.00 dollars an hour in housekeeping.

News **12/18/12** **5am** **: 30**

On December 29th, about 2.1 million Americans could lose their extended unemployment benefits. That's if lawmakers don't renew them as part of a deal to avoid the fiscal cliff. Even though the issue has been far less publicized than other parts of the fiscal cliff, such as income tax increases and spending cuts a cut-off in benefits could have far more impact on the well-being of millions of people.

News **12/20/12** **12pm** **: 30**

Massachusetts lost more than one thousand jobs in November but the state's unemployment rate remained unchanged at 6.6%. Massachusetts remains below the national unemployment rate which fell to a four-year low of 7.7% in November. But the state jobless

rate has climbed by more than half a point since June. State officials point out that Massachusetts has picked up more than 46,000 private sector jobs in the past 12 months and the unemployment rate is 0.4% lower than it was at this time a year ago.