

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 Claprod told 22News the stabbing happened around 1:30 this morning. Claprod 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 Claprod 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**

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 Llewelyn 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

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 than 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.

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.

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

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

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

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

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.