

QUARTERLY ISSUES PROGRAM

LIST FOR

WWLP – SPRINGFIELD, MA

Issues Program List Herein
Covers the Period
JULY 1, 2013 through SEPTEMBER 30, 2013

NOTE: THIS REPORT WAS COMPLETED ON OCTOBER
2, 2013. NOT UPLOADED DUE TO GOVERNMENT
SHUTDOWN



10/2/13

The following is WWLP programming addressing Crime during the 3rd quarter of 2013. These issues were addressed through our locally produced news programming.

News 07/01/13 6pm : 30

Springfield Police need the public's help in identifying a suspect who allegedly broke into a home on St. James Ave last week. The owner of the home had installed a video surveillance system that would activate when the house alarm was tripped. Springfield Police Sgt. John Delaney says this suspect could be responsible for other breaks in the neighborhood. Anyone with information should call contact Springfield Police.

News 07/01/13 6pm : 30

Springfield Police say they arrested a man outside department headquarters after he followed his alleged-sexual assault victim there. Springfield Police Sgt. John Delaney told 22News 36 year old Samuel Aponte tied up his ex-girlfriend's son with an extension cord before sexually assaulting her inside her home early yesterday morning. According to Delaney, Aponte followed his victim to the police station when she went to file a report. Aponte has been charged with aggravated rape, armed burglary, kidnapping and threat to murder.

News 07/01/13 5pm : 30

Police say seven people have been arrested in connection with a late-night shooting in Springfield that left the window of a city bar riddled with bullet holes. Gunfire was exchanged outside the "Punta Cana Restaurant" on Chestnut Street around 11:45 last night. No one was struck. Springfield Police Sgt. John Delaney told 22News police followed the two suspects in the shooting to the "Dogshop Music Stop" on State Street where they allegedly found a marijuana growing operation, guns, and a large amount of cocaine. That's where they made the seven arrests. Sgt. Delaney says the store was serving as a "front" for the drug operation.

News 07/02/13 6am : 30

More details of violence in Aaron Hernandez's past are emerging. The Wall Street Journal reports the former Patriots tight end ruptured a man's eardrum in a bar fight when he was 17. The paper says Hernandez ordered two drinks at a bar in Gainesville, Florida and then refused to pay. When an employee confronted him, Hernandez punched him in the ear. He never denied it, but prosecutors did not file charges even though police asked them to. Hernandez is also being sued for allegedly shooting a friend in the face last year.

News 07/03/13 6pm : 30

Five people were arrested during a drug raid in Springfield last night. Springfield Police Sgt. John Delaney told 22News police suspect the occupants were selling heroin, cocaine and oxycontin out of the home at 130 Washburn Street. In addition to the drugs, police also seized cash and a handgun that was stolen in a housebreak in Cleveland, Ohio. Sgt. Delaney said a sixth suspect was summonsed to court and not arrested because she is eight months pregnant.

News 07/03/13 6pm : 30

Springfield Police need your help identifying three suspects who allegedly broke into the Pride Gas Station on Page Blvd. Springfield Police Sgt. John Delaney told 22News the suspects smashed out the front window, ransacked the store and stole more than 35 cartons of cigarettes.

News 07/03/13 6pm : 30

State Police shot a 23-year-old man during a drug raid in Orange this morning. A State Police tactical team was executing a search warrant at 18 Mechanic St. when they say the man confronted them with a gun. The man has not yet been identified, but was targeted for the alleged sales of oxycodone and Percocet. Police went into the second story apartment around 5 a.m. this morning. When troopers saw the man had a gun, he was shot. It is unclear how many troopers shot the man. He was later pronounced dead at the hospital. A 25-year-old woman that was also targeted in the raid also suffered an eye injury and was taken to a nearby hospital. A neighbor 22News spoke with said it isn't the first time a raid has occurred at the apartment.

News 07/05/13 6pm : 30

A 22 year-old man is facing murder charges in Springfield's 11th homicide of the year. He's accused of killing his 19-year-old girlfriend and dumping her body on the sidewalk. It's Springfield's 11th homicide of the year. 22 year-old Terrance Brown is now facing murder charges. He's accused of killing his girlfriend, 19-year-old Tyshianna Atkins around 3 in the afternoon on the 4th of July. Police say Brown was inside an apartment here at 60 Federal Street when he shot Atkins. Then he reportedly took her body to the back of the building, where he dumped it on the sidewalk and ran away. Springfield's Brandon Kelly went to high school with both the victim and the suspect he says he saw them both just hours before the deadly shooting. Brown was arraigned in court today. He's pleaded not guilty to murder and firearms charges.

News 07/05/13 7am : 30

Chicopee Detectives have issued a warrant for a man they believe stole \$4,000 dollars from an elderly Chicopee woman earlier this month. Chicopee Detective Bob Kalisz told 22News, the man they're looking for is 29 year old Michael Shumway. He's believed to have left Chicopee and is somewhere in Western Massachusetts. Shumway is accused of not only

stealing the woman's money, but also her medication. If you know anything you're asked to call Chicopee police at 594-1735.

News **07/05/13** **7am** **: 30**

A man shot in Springfield was taken to the Hospital last night. Police Captain Cheryl Claprood told 22News a man was shot on Carew Street in the Hungry Hill section of Springfield around 2:30 Saturday afternoon. He was taken to Baystate Medical Center and is expected to be ok. Claprood said when police got there they found the victim on the back porch at 741 Carew Street. The victim told police he doesn't know who shot him. No arrests have been made.

News **07/05/13** **11pm** **: 30**

State Police have identified the man who was shot and killed by troopers during a drug investigation. A State police news release said 23 year old Corey Navarette was holding a firearm when he confronted a state police tactical team executing a search warrant on his Mechanic Street home early yesterday. State police say they will not release more information until the Northwestern district attorney's office determines whether the use of deadly force was justified.

News **07/05/13** **11pm** **: 30**

We now know the identity of the man accused of shooting and killing a 20 year old woman during a domestic dispute on Federal Street this afternoon. Springfield Police Sgt John Delaney told 22News that police have arrested 22 year old Terrence Brown and charged him with murder. We still do not know the name of the victim.

News **07/07/13** **6pm** **: 30**

Enfield Police are closing in on a gunman who's allegedly desperate for drugs. The man pulled a gun on a clerk at the Rite Aid Pharmacy at 71 Palumba Drive this weekend; he got away but not before the store's surveillance camera took a good picture of him. The man was unshaven and has dreadlocked hair and was wearing a green, black and orange hat. Police estimate his height at being somewhere between 5'8" to 5'10". While holding the clerk at bay at the point of a gun, he's believed to have scooped up a quantity of prescription drugs. If you recognize this man get in touch with the Enfield Police.

News **07/10/13** **12pm** **: 30**

A man from Lee has pleaded not guilty to child pornography charges. Michael Cahalan was released after his arraignment Tuesday in Berkshire Superior Court to one count of dissemination of visual material of a child in a state of nudity or sexual conduct and three counts of possession. The Berkshire Eagle reports the charges arose from an Internet Crimes against Children Task Force investigation in January. Prosecutors say the incidents are alleged to have occurred between January 13 and February 11.

News**07/13/13****6pm****: 30**

Longmeadow Police are searching for two brazen thieves who allegedly stole prescription drugs from the CVS Pharmacy on Longmeadow Street. It happened just before 1:30 this afternoon. Two dark skinned men reportedly went up to the pharmacy counter.

Longmeadow Police Captain John Stankiewicz told 22News one of them handed the pharmacist a note demanding drugs. The man then jumped over the counter and starting filling a trash bag with prescription pills. Both men then ran out the back of the store, but not before store surveillance video captured their pictures. One of the suspects was wearing gray t-shirt that read "Shake that Laffy Taffy." The other suspect wore a gray hoodie with a black baseball cap and orange visor. Anybody with information is asked to call the Longmeadow Police at 567-3311.

News**07/15/13****11pm****: 30**

Tonight, Springfield police are searching for a man they say pistol whipped his wife, leaving her beaten and bloody. Captain Cheryl Clapprood said it happened at around 2:30 this morning on Bristol Street. 29 year old John Chirstian Perez allegedly hit his wife in the face with a 9mm handgun and then shot the gun in the air before he left. Anybody with information is asked to call the Springfield Police Department Detective Bureau at 787-6355.

News**07/16/13****5am****: 30**

Four men were arraigned on several gun and drug charges after Holyoke Police said they seized heroin and loaded weapons from their apartment. The suspects are 18-year-old Julio Rosado-Vega, 27-year-old Kevin Echevarria, 44-year-old Freddie Rivera and 25-year-old Raymond Guzman. They were arrested Sunday night at 89-91 Mosher Street. Lt. James Albert told 22News police found 19 bags of heroin, 3 bags of cocaine and 6 bags of marijuana.

News**07/18/13****6pm****: 30**

Springfield Police need your help identifying a truck that may be involved with the theft of roofing materials from the Grossman's Bargain outlet on Boston Road. Springfield Police Sgt. John Delaney told 22News the suspects cut the chain off of the fence in the rear of the building. An employee told police they saw two white men in their 20's inside the truck. Anyone with information should call Springfield police.

News**07/18/13****5pm****: 30**

A 24 year-old man from Holyoke is dead after he was shot in Springfield early this morning. Captain Thomas Trites told 22News the shooting happened behind a bar near 1146 State Street. This is the city's 12th homicide of the year. Lt. Henry Gagnon told 22news no arrests have been made but they have a lead on a suspect. The victim has not been identified.

News 07/18/13 5am : 30

A man was stabbed and another was placed under arrest last night in Springfield. This happened around 10:30 Wednesday night. Springfield Police Sgt. Chris Hitis told 22News the victim was seriously wounded in the attack at 75 Long Hill Street. Sgt Hitis said police quickly arrested a suspect. We called Springfield police overnight, but there is no word on the condition of the victim.

News 07/20/13 6pm : 30

A medical examiner is working to identify a body that was found in a duffel bag in the woods of Suffield, Connecticut. The body was discovered around 1:45 PM Friday by two teenagers who were hiking in an area known as Quarry Ridge. Suffield Police told 22News they believe the body was dumped, but that the crime occurred someplace else. They could only say the body was that of a white man. Chief Mike Manzi urges the public to contact the Suffield police Department with any information, their number is 860-668-3870.

News 07/21/13 9am : 30

Holyoke Police Lieutenant Isaias Cruz told 22news that a man entered the Rite Aid on 15-04 Northampton Street in Holyoke just before 6:30 Saturday night and stole several bottles of oxycodone at gunpoint. The suspect is a Hispanic man, around 5'7" and 150 pounds. He is described as having straight dark hair with bright highlights, and could have possibly been wearing a wig. Police are reviewing the surveillance footage in order to further identify the suspect.

News 07/22/13 6pm : 30

Four people were arrested during a drug raid in Northampton early this morning. Northampton Police Lt. Jody Kasper told 22News police found 68 grams of crack cocaine with a street value of \$7,000 inside the apartment at 260 Main Street in the Leeds section of the city. Police also found \$5,000 in cash, a stolen firearm and ammunition in the apartment. Lt. Kasper says the arrests followed an investigation spanning several months.

News 07/22/13 12pm : 30

Holyoke Police are still searching for a man who they say, stole bottles of oxycodone from a Rite Aid Pharmacy over the weekend. He is believed to be armed and dangerous. Lt. Isaias Cruz told 22News a man came into the Northampton St. Rite Aid in Holyoke around 6:30 Saturday night, flashed a gun in his waistband and hopped over the counter forcing the cashier to open a safe containing oxycodone pills. He grabbed several bottles and ran out of the store. The suspect also matches the description of a man who robbed a Rite Aid in Chicopee, two weeks ago. He's a Hispanic man, around 5'7" and weighing 150 pounds. He had straight dark hair and bright highlights, and it's possible he was wearing a wig. He wore jean shorts and dark sneakers. If you have any information, you're asked to call the Holyoke

Police Dept. right away, at (413) 536-6431.

News **07/23/13** **12pm** **: 30**

Springfield Police are searching for the man who robbed a gas station this morning. Springfield Police Lt. Henry Gagnon told 22News the man was holding a knife when he robbed the F.L. Roberts Station at 833 East Columbus Avenue right around 6 this morning. According to Lt. Gagnon police are looking for an African American man, 5' 5" tall, and hair in cornrows and wearing a blue jacket and a Yankees cap with a bandana over his face.

News **07/24/13** **6pm** **: 30**

Amherst Police need your help identifying a robbery suspect. Amherst Police Lt. Ronald Young told 22news this man went into the Hess Gas station on West Street just before three this morning, reached into the register and stole some cash. No weapon was shown. Lt. Young described the suspect as a black man, between 25 and 30 years old.

News 07/25/13 12pm : 30

Amherst police made an arrest in a convenience store robbery after a disturbance call at an apartment complex led them to the suspect. Lt. Ronald Young told 22News that 33-year-old Michael Edwards of Amherst was arrested for Wednesday morning's robbery of the Hess Station on West Street. According to LT. Young police were called to the Village Park Apartments just after 2:30 for a report of a disturbance there. While officers were investigating the incident, they found Edwards who matched the description of the suspect in the Hess robbery. During that robbery Young says the suspect entered the store around 3:00 Wednesday morning and grabbed cash from one of the registers before running away. Edwards will be arraigned in Belchertown today.

News **07/25/13** **12pm** **: 30**

Springfield Police are investigating a shooting in which two victims were wounded in Mason Square. Lt. James Rosso told 22News two men were shot at about 10:15 last night at 540 Union Street. Lt Rosso said he had very little information. but that the wounds were likely to the victims' legs.

News **07/25/13** **12pm** **: 30**

A woman from Wilbraham was killed in a violent attack in Boston and now Police are asking for help to find her killer. Boston Police believe 24 year old Amy Lord was on her way to the gym when she was abducted Tuesday morning and forced to ride to several ATM's to withdraw cash. Lord was found stabbed to death in the stony brook reservation in the Hyde Park section of Boston. Her car was later found on fire. Wednesday night those who knew and loved Amy were at Gazebo Park in Wilbraham for a candlelight vigil.

Police have arrested Edwin Alemany for two attacks on women in South Boston. The 28-year-old is also a person of interest in the brutal murder of Amy Lord. Alemany's arraignment was postponed after a court psychiatrist said he was suicidal. Lord, a 24 year old Wilbraham native and Minnechaug High School graduate was found dead in Boston's Hyde Park neighborhood on Tuesday. Police say Lord was kidnapped, carjacked, robbed and murdered. They now believe she was beaten first inside her home before being taken to five different ATM's. Police believe Lord was chosen at random.

News 07/26/13 6pm : 30

Two people are under arrest after a shooting in downtown Springfield overnight. Springfield Police Sgt. John Delaney told 22News 21 year old Junito Batista was arrested after he allegedly fired several shots at a group of people in Sterns Square just before two this morning. A second man, 29 year old Manuel Melendez, was also arrested after he allegedly almost struck an officer with his car while trying to leave the area. Sgt. Delany says Melendez was driving a gunshot victim to the hospital, but was also carrying a large amount of drugs.

News 07/26/13 5pm : 30

A Springfield police sergeant was hit by a stolen rental car while he was busy chasing a shooting suspect, police say. Springfield Police Sergeant John Delaney told 22News that just before 2 this morning Sergeant Julio Toledo was chasing Junito Batista after he allegedly fired shots on Worthington Street. As Toledo was chasing Batista, he was almost hit by a white Dodge Charger. Other officers tried to pull the car over but it turns out the driver Manuel Melendez was taking a victim of the shooting to the hospital. Melendez was also arrested after Delaney says police discovered drugs in his car and found out that the car had been stolen. The shooting victim had only been grazed by a bullet.

News 07/26/13 11pm : 30

A Pittsfield ice cream truck owner and driver has been charged with trying to hire someone to kill his wife. Recep Sarikcioglu was in jail for violating a restraining order. While in jail, prosecutors say he offered another inmate \$10,000 dollars to either cut the brakes on his wife's car or tamper with the natural gas line at her home. Instead of following through that inmate notified police.

News 07/26/13 11pm : 30

Two Springfield shootings occurred as recently as one o'clock this morning. The man had two bullet wounds in his chest and stomach and one in the arm. He was operated on at Baystate medical center. He's now recovering. Springfield police captain Trent Duda told 22News someone shot the victim in the middle of the street near 162 Main Street in Springfield's South End neighborhood.

News **07/29/13** **6pm** **: 30**

Three men were arrested over the weekend after getting "caught in the act" steeling roofing shingles and other building supplies from the ABC Supply Company. Springfield Police Sgt. John Delaney told 22news, two officers noticed the three men with a U-Haul truck at 152 Fisk Avenue around 1A.M. Saturday morning. The officers saw the business had been broken into and the men were loading pallets of roofing shingles onto the truck. Gabriel Acosta, Ruben Santiago, and Alexis Figueroa, all from Springfield, are being charged with breaking and entering, larceny over \$250, and resisting arrest.

News **07/30/13** **6pm** **: 30**

Springfield Police say officers shot and wounded a man who allegedly came at them with an axe. According to Sgt. John Delaney, 28- year-old Nicholas Mondel allegedly swung an axe at one of three police officers who responded to a call at 74 Irvington Street on Monday night. Delaney said that the suspect knocked the officer down and again swung at him with the axe. The other officers shot Mondel, who faces charges of assault with intent to murder and assault and battery on a police officer. He is now in serious but stable condition at Baystate Medical Center.

News **07/30/13** **11pm** **: 30**

And these two men were arrested by Springfield police, charged with breaking and entering into a home on Hamilton Street. Springfield Police Sgt. John Delaney told 22News the homeowner called police after she came home to find her two flat screens ripped off her walls and stolen. A short time later, Sgt. Delaney said officers found 19 year old Jordan Collins and 22 year old Troy Dubose both of Springfield in the area with two TVs in their car. Detectives are now looking into whether the pair is responsible for other break-ins in the area.

News **07/30/13** **11pm** **: 30**

A state trooper on duty in Springfield as part of that community action team was called to try and help find a stolen scooter. Trooper T.J. Tudry said he tracked down the scooter and after a foot chase arrested the driver. 25 year old Joshua Landrom of Springfield was booked on several charges including carrying this .25 caliber handgun and ammunition without a license.

News **07/31/13** **6pm** **: 30**

Springfield Police say a man who allegedly tried to cash a stolen check in front of a uniformed police officer also left his license with the teller. Springfield Police Sgt. John Delaney told 22News 22 year-old, Marcus Cadogan allegedly tried to cash a \$3,000 dollar check at the TD Bank on State Street on Tuesday night. Delaney says the teller recognized the stolen check and notified the officer on duty at the bank. Cadogan allegedly ran, but left his license with the teller. He was found a short time later hiding in an attic crawl space on Westford Circle.

The Suffolk District Attorney's Office announced today that 28 year old Edwin Alemany will be charged with the murder of Amy Lord. Alemany was previously named as a "person of interest" in the case. Suffolk District Attorney Daniel Conley announced this afternoon that Alemany will be formally charged with Lord's death in West Roxbury District Court after his mental health evaluation is complete. Alemany was ordered to undergo a psychiatric evaluation after being charged with attacks on the two other women last week.

Athol Police say they busted a significant marijuana growing operation in town this week. Sgt. Kent Hager told 22News, officers with a search warrant found about 90 marijuana plants inside at duplex at 164-166 Allen Street Wednesday afternoon. The plants have a street value of between \$40,000 and \$50,000. The warrant was for 21-year old Joseph Cuticchia but he wasn't home. But, his father, 48-year-old Joseph Cuticchia was arrested on several charges and was released on \$5,000 cash bail. Charges are pending against the son.

News 08/02/13 6pm : 30

A convicted sex offender from Holyoke tied to crimes in multiple states was arrested last night in Colorado. The U.S. Marshal Service says 34-year old Joseph Trombley was wanted on felony warrants for larceny from several local communities and failure to register as a sex offender in Holyoke. The Marshals say Trombley was traveling with his girlfriend and her two small children. Authorities tracked the couple to several states, including Alabama, Nebraska, Florida and Wyoming. Trombley is currently awaiting extradition back to Massachusetts.

Right now the state police are working with police in Westfield to track down whoever robbed a Rite Ad pharmacy on Silver Street this morning at 11AM. It's not clear what was stolen, and there's no description of the suspect. This is not the first pharmacy to be robbed recently. There was a robbery of the Northampton Street Rite Aid in Holyoke on July 22nd, the Longmeadow Street CVS in Longmeadow on July 13th, the Walgreens on Northampton Street in Holyoke on July 9th and a Rite Aid in Enfield, Connecticut on July 6th in all of those robberies prescription pills were what was stolen.

News **08/02/13** **7am** **: 30**

A man is in the hospital after being shot early this morning in Springfield. Springfield Police say it happened around 1:00 in the morning in the middle of the road, near 162 Main Street. Springfield Police Captain Trent Duda told 22news that the victim was shot in the torso and the arm, and was transported to Baystate Medical Center.

News 08/03/13 6pm : 30

A 27 year old stabbing victim from Indian Orchard is in stable condition tonight at Baystate Medical Center in Springfield. Captain Trent Duda told 22News it was just after 1AM this morning, when a neighbor found the man in his apartment at 316 Oak Street. Captain Duda said the victim didn't cooperate when it came to naming the person who had stabbed him twice.

Springfield police continue searching for the driver who crashed a stolen car into the side of a house early this morning in the Brightwood section of the city. Springfield Police Captain Trent Duda told 22News the man driving the stolen car slammed into a house at 104 Lowell Street; but not before almost hitting an eight year old girl with the Silver Toyota Corolla just after midnight. Captain Duda said the driver then ran away.

Springfield Police tonight are still searching for whoever shot a man three times in the city's South End. It happened near 163 Main Street at around 1:00 this morning. Captain Trent Dooda told 22News the victim was shot in the middle of the road. The bullets hit him in the chest, stomach and arm. 22News talked to a man who was in the area at the time of the shooting.

News **08/04/13** **11pm** **: 30**

Springfield police are trying to find whoever robbed the Mobile Station at 833 East Columbus Avenue. Captain Cheryl Claprood told 22News at around 7:30 tonight a black man with dark hair, a blue jacket and blue jeans walked into the store with a large knife. The man allegedly threatened the clerk and demanded she open the cash register. The man stole a small amount of money and then ran toward Main Street. Part of his face was covered by a scarf but police detectives are reviewing the station's surveillance cameras to see if they can identify him.

News **08/05/13** **5:30pm** **:30**

A Southwick man is charged with allegedly hitting a police officer with his car. The incident happened in Granby, CT. The Associated Press says Officer Mark Garofalo was hit on Route 10 & 202 early Sunday evening while he stood outside his cruiser while helping the driver of a disabled tractor trailer. Thirty-one-year-old Daniel Kupruck is charged with operating under the influence, operating without insurance, operating under suspension, possession of drug paraphernalia, and striking a police officer with a vehicle. Police say Officer Garofalo was treated and released from a local hospital after suffering unspecified injuries.

Police in East Longmeadow say they've identified the person who stole a vehicle and then led them on a brief chase into Springfield. It started just after 10:15 last night on North Main Street near the Big Y. East Longmeadow Police Sgt. Steven Manning says they chased the suspect into Springfield, where the vehicle crashed on Kimberly Ave. The suspect got out of the car and ran away and was then chased by police dogs. East Longmeadow Police say the chase was called off because they believe they know who this man is. He'll be charged with stealing a car and many driving infractions.

News 08/05/13 11pm : 30

A routine traffic stop led to the arrest of five people including two from Holyoke. State Police Trooper Matt Stone stopped a car for a lanes violation in West Springfield. When he searched the car, he allegedly found a loaded, fully-automatic Tech-9 machine pistol similar to an Uzi. 26 year old Jose Espinosa-DeJesus of Holyoke was arrested along with another teenager from Holyoke and three more teenagers from Philadelphia. All five are being held at the State Police barracks in Springfield. They'll be in Springfield District Court in the morning.

News 08/08/13 5pm : 30

Lee's Police Chief has been indicted on federal money laundering and extortion charges. This is the 11 page federal indictment against Lee Police Chief Joseph Buffis. The indictment claims that the Chief allegedly sought out and received a \$4000 dollar donation from two people who were accused of running a house of prostitution. Federal documents show that the Lee Police were conducting an undercover prostitution investigation at an unnamed Inn. The police submitted criminal complaints against the owners of the Inn. But in February 2012, the Chief met with the owners before they went to court. That's when the indictment claims that the Chief extorted \$4,000 dollars from the owners. The "donation" was made to a holiday toy fund that Buffis controlled, but the justice department says Buffis then withdrew the money and put it in his own account. 22News first reported this story in November when the FBI searched the police department headquarters. If convicted, Buffis faces a maximum of 20 years in prison on each of the counts and \$250,000 fine. No word yet on when Buffis will be in court.

News 08/08/13 6am : 30

A woman from Ludlow is charged with drunk driving for the second time after allegedly hitting a bicyclist with her car. The accident was on Wilbraham Street/Route 20 in Palmer at about 5:30 Wednesday evening. Sgt. Rodney North told 22News 31-year-old Deirdre Santos clipped a man riding a bike down the side of the road. He was taken to Baystate Medical Center and he is recovering this morning. Santos is also accused of driving negligently and driving without a license.

News 08/09/13 12pm : 30

The 4th defendant wanted for a 2010 home invasion killing in Springfield is in custody. Dennys Tarraza is scheduled for arraignment in Hampden Superior Court today. Frank Flannery of the Hampden County District Attorney's Office told 22News Tarraza is charged in the December 14, 2010 killing of Ramon Cruz at 265 Mill Street. Cruz was shot and stabbed. Tarraza is not a suspect in the murder of 17 year old Jose Colon in Van Horn Park in Springfield in December of 2010.

News 08/09/13 11pm : 30

A federal grand jury charged two friends of Boston marathon bombing suspect Dzhokhar Tsarnaev today. The US attorney's office in Boston says they're now charged with obstructing justice. The two 19-year olds from Kazakhstan were charged with conspiracy to obstruct justice in May. They're accused of helping Tsarnaev after the April 15th bombing by taking items from his dorm room to keep them from investigators. If convicted, they could get up to 20 years in prison on the obstruction count and up to five years on the conspiracy count. They also could be fined \$250,000 dollars.

News 08/10/13 6pm : 30

Massachusetts state police in Sturbridge today arrested two men, who they say could be responsible for a number of burglaries in Eastern Hampden County. State Police notified 22News late today they've arrested Nathan Cooley and Henry Record, both 20 years old and both from the town of Holland. State and Holland Police arrested the men, after they allegedly broke into a house on Stafford road in Holland this morning. They've allegedly been linked to a series of house breaks in Brimfield, Wales and Holland, where copper piping and TVs were stolen. Cooley and Record will face a Palmer district court judge on Monday.

News 08/10/13 9am : 30

Former US Sen. Scott Brown's brother has been charged in Connecticut with impersonating a police officer after authorities say he stopped boaters. Police say 46-year-old Bruce Brown, of Wolcott, stopped three vessels on long island sound on Thursday and asked boaters for their registrations and safety certificates. Police say Brown had three loaded handguns, handcuffs and a bulletproof vest marked "police" in his car. Scott brown says he learned about the arrest Friday.

News 08/11/13 6pm : 30

Less than an hour ago, a man robbed the Dollar store in downtown Chicopee. Chicopee police Sgt. Christopher Lareau told 22News, the man was armed when he went into the dollar store on Exchange Street. Police are busy checking the neighborhood for the man ran out of the store after confronting a clerk.

News 08/11/13 9am : 30

Springfield Police are looking for two men who reportedly shot at two police officers early this morning. Lt. Henry Gagnon told 22news that officers were on 659 State Street accompanied by two EMT's in an ambulance just before 3:30 this morning. They were approached by a man with a head injury, who claimed he was hit with a gun. Police say two suspects then fired three or four shots from behind that injured man, with one hitting the ambulance and the others going over the heads of the officers. After firing, the two men turned and ran. The first suspect is identified as a black man between 5'10" and 6'0" wearing a white T-shirt and khaki shorts, and the other is described as a Latino man wearing a white shirt. Anyone with information is asked to call Springfield Police at 413-787-6325.

News 08/12/13 5pm : 30

Former Boston crime boss James "Whitey" Bulger has been convicted in a string of 11 killings and other underworld crimes. The 83-year-old Bulger faces life in prison after being convicted today of committing or playing a role in the killings during the 1970s and '80s while he led the Winter Hill Gang. He is accused of shooting or strangling some of the victims himself. In other cases, he allegedly ordered the slayings or participated in some other way.

News 08/14/13 6pm : 30

Springfield Police seized more than 1,400 bags of heroin during a search of what they're calling a "large scale distribution safe house." Springfield Police Sgt. John Delaney told 22News police also found weapons, ammo, and more than \$1,300 dollars in cash during inside the home at 30 Wareham Street last night. 32 year old Michael Jones was arrested and charged with drug possession and distribution, as well as firearms charges. An arrest warrant was also issued for his girlfriend on the same charges.

News 08/14/13 11pm : 30

It pays to stay in shape, at least for one Springfield Police officer. Springfield Police Sgt. John Delaney told 22News an off-duty officer was going for his afternoon jog when he noticed this man, 25-year old Jesse Sands, allegedly attempting to break into a home on Gifford Street. Once the suspect realized he had been spotted, Sgt. Delaney said he attempted to run but was quickly caught by the off-duty officer. Sands was detained until an on-duty police arrived and placed him under arrest.

News 08/14/13 11pm : 30

Springfield Police are investigating a shooting in the city's North End. Springfield Police Captain Cheryl Clapprood told 22News there were two victims; one with a gunshot wound to his hand, the other with a wound to his groin. The victims were found at Christopher's Package Store at 2803 Main Street, but Clapprood said it looks like the shooting took place on East Hooker Street nearby. No word yet on the condition of the victims who were being rushed to the hospital. No word on suspects.

News 08/15/13 6pm : 30

Springfield Police have arrested a man accused of stealing cell phones from women jogging alone in the 16 acres neighborhood. Springfield Police Sgt. John Delaney told 22News 19 year old David Beadle is suspected in least a half dozen unarmed robberies that happened in broad daylight. According to Sgt. Delaney, the women had their phones ripped from their hands while jogging or walking near Wilbraham Road, Alden Street, and most recently today, Bradley Road. Sgt. Delaney says many of the stolen phones were found inside a white van that was also used in the robberies.

News **08/15/13** **6pm** **: 30**

A man charged with protecting the public is now charged with possession of drugs. This morning, Ludlow Police placed one of their own in handcuffs: 49 year old Ludlow Police Lt. Thomas Foye. Foye was arrested by the State Police, accused of stealing drugs from an evidence locker inside the police department. The arrest was made after an internal investigation at the police department. According to the office of Attorney General Martha Coakley, Foye went into the evidence locker without authorization. He was arrested at the Ludlow Police Station. State Police say they allegedly found Foye carrying what appeared to be cocaine. His official charges include theft of drugs from a depository and possession of a class B substance.

News **08/15/13** **6pm** **: 30**

No bail for the man charged with kidnapping and killing Wilbraham-native Amy Lord. A not guilty plea was entered on behalf of Edwin Alemany at his arraignment today on murder charges. Lord was killed during a violent 24-hour period in which prosecutors allege Alemany assaulted two other women. Alemany was ordered held on \$3 million bail yesterday after pleading not guilty to the two non-deadly assaults. Alemany's lawyer asked a judge today to send his client to a mental health facility because he tried to kill himself in jail last night.

News **08/16/13** **6pm** **: 30**

Chicopee police need your help tracking down the person who robbed a CVS pharmacy last night. Police say the suspect is a dark skinned man in his mid 20s who reportedly robbed the pharmacy on Center Street in Chicopee. A handgun was shown and prescription medication was stolen. Police say prescription thefts are becoming more and more common.

News **08/16/13** **12pm** **: 30**

The son of longtime Red Sox broadcaster Jerry Remy has been charged with the murder of his girlfriend. Middlesex District Attorney Marian Ryan says Jared Remy will be arraigned today in connection with the stabbing death of 27-year-old Jennifer Martel. Ryan said at a news conference that Remy and Martel were involved in a "romantic relationship." Ryan says police went to a Waltham apartment complex at about 10 Thursday night and they found Martel Outside with multiple stab wounds. The district attorney acknowledged this was not

the first time there was trouble at the home. There was a report filed about an incident this past Tuesday. Now there are questions about both cases.

News **08/17/13** **9am** **: 30**

Bail has been revoked for a woman charged with setting fire to her own home in Springfield's Mason Square Neighborhood. 39-year old Michele Kotarski is accused of setting fire to a couch on the front porch of her Maynard Street home Thursday night. The fire spread quickly and damaged the entire front of the two-family home, as well as the house next door. Kotarski was already out on bail on separate charges. The judge ordered her held until her next court hearing September 10th.

News **08/17/13** **6am** **: 30**

A liquor store clerk foiled a robbery attempt on Friday by pulling a gun on a man armed with a knife in Sunderland. Sunderland Police Chief Jeffrey Gilbert told 22News the man was wearing a white knit cap with holes cut out for his eyes. He threatened the clerk with a large knife at the Spirit Shoppe on Amherst Road at 2:00 yesterday afternoon. According to Chief Gilbert, the robber told the clerk, "I'm all cracked out! Give me all your cash." At that point the clerk displayed his own weapon, a handgun, and the unsuccessful robber ran out of the store empty handed. No one was hurt.

News **08/18/13** **11pm** **: 30**

State Police in Springfield tonight are searching for a White Mitsubishi Lancer. Trooper Robert Church told 22News the car refused to stop and was last seen in the area of Page Boulevard and Robbins Road. Just before 9:30 the state police tried pulling the car over for motor vehicle violations. A state police helicopter was dispatched to help in the search, but Trooper Church said the chase was called off because the area was too densely populated. If you see the car or have any information, call the Springfield State Police Barracks at 736-8390.

News **08/20/13** **6pm** **: 30**

Greenfield Police arrested two suspects during a drug raid on an apartment on Armory St. Detective Lt. Dan McCarthy told 22News police found more than 30 grams of crack cocaine with a street value of up to five thousand dollars, as well as more than \$13,000 dollars in cash. 33 year old Rion Latta was charged with trafficking cocaine and possession with intent to distribute. 29 year Victoria McCrae is currently only charged with an outstanding warrant.

News **08/21/13** **6pm** **: 30**

Chicopee Police are searching for a man who robbed a woman of her prescription drugs outside the Rite Aid on St. James Ave this afternoon. Chicopee Deputy Police Chief William Jeb told 22News a young Hispanic man grabbed the pills from the woman's hand after she

left the store. No word on what kind of drugs was stolen. The Rite Aid pharmacy was also robbed nearly two weeks ago on August 9th.

News 08/21/13 5pm : 30

Springfield Police raided a home and caught a father and son with more than 50 marijuana plants in their backyard. A father and son duo was arraigned in Springfield District Court today after Springfield Police found 57 marijuana plants in a backyard of a home here on Merida Street. Springfield Police Sgt. John Delaney told 22News 45-year-old Michael Oliverio bragged to neighbors that he didn't need to work because he had a marijuana growing operation that he ran with his father, Ronald Oliverio. That led to a month-long police investigation. Tuesday night detectives obtained a search warrant and raided their home. Sgt. Delaney said police found 47 pounds of marijuana and nearly \$8,000 in cash.

News 08/23/13 6pm : 30

Police in Westfield are asking for the public's help. Police say two people have been stealing the coils out of commercial air conditioners. Westfield Police Captain Michael McCabe told 22News there have been at least three separate thefts during this month. Police say all of those thefts are believed to be connected. There was a theft on August 5th at Mestek, which is an HVAC and metal equipment manufacturer on North Elm Street. This surveillance video shows two people leaving in a white van. Captain McCabe says these condenser coils are worth about \$500-600 each. There were two more thefts on North Road on August 8th and 18th.

News 08/25/13 6pm : 30

A wounded 27 year old Springfield man told Detectives he has no idea why two men shot him at a Springfield street corner early this morning. The gunmen shot the man in the leg and the rib cage at the corner of State Street and Colonial Avenue in the city's upper hill neighborhood at about three o'clock this morning. Springfield police Lt. Robert Moynihan told 22News, it's clear from the shell casings police found that the bullets came from two different guns. The victim was first taken to Mercy Medical Center and then transferred to Baystate medical center to be treated. It appears he'll eventually be alright. Soon after the shooting Police Captain Trent Duda told 22News that the wounded man wasn't cooperating with police.

News 08/26/13 11pm : 30

A woman from Amherst has been arrested and accused of stabbing two people following an argument outside of a sports bar this weekend. Amherst police told 22News it happened outside Michael's Billiards at 20 Belchertown Road late Saturday night. Police say 25 year old Jasmine Zabala allegedly stabbed a man and woman after a heated argument. Zabala is charged with two counts of assault and battery with a dangerous weapon. The victims are expected to be okay.

News 08/28/13 6pm : 30

Burglars went through the ventilation system on the roof to break into the Papa Gino's restaurant on Boston road in Wilbraham this morning. But Wilbraham police officer Peter Lavoilette told 22News, they may have set off the burglary alarm as soon as they climbed down the vent about a quarter of five this morning. The burglar or burglars got away in spite of the use of police dogs. Police aren't sure the thieves took anything from the Papa Gino's restaurant.

News 08/28/13 6pm : 30

Springfield Police have arrested two teens who allegedly beat and robbed a homeless man, and then jumped him a second time a short time later. Sgt. John Delaney told 22News that 17 year olds Anthony Rivera and Jonathan Cotto allegedly attacked a homeless man who was sitting on a bench at Riverfront Park early this morning. Sgt. Delaney says the teens allegedly jumped the man a second time after he called police. Police are now trying to link the two suspects with a robbery of a fisherman at Riverfront Park on Monday morning.

News 08/28/13 6pm : 30

Holyoke Police need your help identifying a suspect who held up a downtown convenience store this morning. Lt. James Albert told 22News that a man carrying a sawed-off shotgun walked into the store at 224 Lyman Street around 10:00 this morning. No one was hurt. The robber got away with some cash, and ran away toward Maple Street. If you have any information, call Holyoke Police.

News 08/28/13 6pm : 30

A man involved a domestic dispute was shot by a Springfield Police officer late this afternoon in Kenefick Park. The officer was not injured and the suspect is expected to survive. Tonight Kenefick Park is blocked off to public as police continue to investigate this shooting. Just after 3:00 this afternoon, an officer shot a man in the leg after that man pulled out a knife. Police Sgt. John Delaney told 22News that man smashed a window of a car where his significant other was, and when police approached him, he pulled out a knife. The man was shot in the leg, but he is expected to be okay. Once he is released from the hospital, he could be charged with assault and battery.

News 08/28/13 5pm : 30

A series of pharmacy robberies have police from multiple towns searching for who is responsible. Both Chicopee and Westfield Police told 22news that prescription drugs are the targeted item in most of these robberies. Lt. Mark Higgin's told 22News a robbery in the CVS on Memorial drive in Chicopee is the 4th in the city since June 30th. A Rite Aid in Westfield was also robbed early in August and a Rite Aid in Enfield Connecticut was robbed in July. Chicopee police and Westfield's police Captain Michael McCabe, believe some these

incidents could be connected because the suspect in each case behaves similarly.

News 08/29/13 6pm : 30

No bail for a man who was shot by Springfield Police after he allegedly threatened to kill an officer during a domestic disturbance. Springfield Police Sgt. John Delaney told 22News 49 year old Heriberto Hernandez threatened to kill an officer with a knife yesterday afternoon. The officer was investigating a domestic disturbance in Kenefick Park in the city's Brightwood neighborhood. Sgt. Delaney told 22News Hernandez also released his pit-bull to attack the officer. The officer shot the Hernandez once in the leg. The officer was not injured.

News 08/30/13 6pm : 30

Springfield Police say a man who was arrested for allegedly stalking a 16 year-old girl ended up being the victim of a crime himself shortly after he was arrested. Sgt. John Delaney told 22News that 53-year old John Ecker of Indian Orchard was arrested last night on charges of stalking and open and gross lewdness. About four hours after his arrest, police caught 18 year old David Concepcion allegedly breaking into Ecker's home. Concepcion was charged with breaking and entering during the nighttime with intent to commit a felony, and larceny from a building.

News 08/30/13 6pm : 30

New information on three teens charged with sexually assaulting classmates at a Berkshire County camp site. The teens are Juniors at Somerville High School in the eastern part of the state. Their alleged victims are freshman at the school. Berkshire County District Attorney David Capeless told 22News the City of Somerville had rented Camp Lenox in Lee this past weekend for team-building activities for its fall sports teams. Capeless alleges that the defendants entered a cabin occupied by freshman students on Sunday, August 25th and assaulted three victims. The teens will be arraigned next week in Pittsfield.

News 08/30/13 5pm : 30

Two men from Western Massachusetts were arrested at a traffic stop on Interstate 80 in Nebraska after state troopers found 30-and-a-half pounds of marijuana in their car. 42-year-old William Bonilla of Westfield and 31-year-old Joseph Zaitshik of Springfield were arrested, according to a news release from the Nebraska State Patrol. The Nebraska State Patrol says the trooper searched the car after smelling an odor of marijuana coming from it, and found the drugs in the trunk. The two men were charged with possession of marijuana with intent to deliver.

News 08/31/13 9am : 30

A woman was shot in her home early this morning according to Springfield police. The shooting occurred at 72 Canon Circle in Springfield just before 2:00AM. Springfield Police Captain Trent Duda told 22news the victim had been sitting on her couch when the bullet

came through the wall and hit her. She is expected to be okay, but was taken to Baystate Medical Center. There are currently no suspects, and the victim did not know who the shooter could have been.

News 08/31/13 9am : 30

A large fight started at the Ken's parking lot on Worthington Street early this morning. Police were called to the fight just after two when several people reported hearing gunshots.. Springfield Police Captain Trent Duda told 22news that no shots were actually fired, but the fight did include 30 to 40 people. One man was treated by EMT's but no one was taken to the hospital. Captain Duda told 22news that a couple people were arrested for disorderly conduct.

News 09/01/13 6pm : 30

Two men with weapons allegedly brutally attacked and robbed a man who was walking alone near Springfield College early this morning. Springfield Police Lt. Robert Moynihan told 22News, a man with a knife stabbed the victim's arm and then stole \$340 dollars at Eastern Avenue and Green Street at about 2:00 this morning. The other man allegedly had a gun. Lt. Moynihan said the stab victim described the two suspects as black men, one wearing a dark shirt, the other an orange sweater. Springfield College Police alerted city police who found the victim walking on Wilbraham Avenue and Courtland Street in the city's Upper Hill neighborhood.

News 09/02/13 6pm : 30

Longmeadow Police are asking for your help to find a man who posed as a tree worker and stole jewelry. Longmeadow Police want people to be on the lookout and be more cautious about whom you let into your house. Police Captain John Stankiewicz told 22News a Hispanic man knocked on the door of a Western Drive resident. The suspect told an elderly woman that he's with a tree company that's doing some work for a neighbor, and he asked to see property lines in her backyard. Captain Stankiewicz said while she was outside talking to that man, his partner went into her house and stole jewelry. Longmeadow residents are now on high alert. They hope police find the suspect soon.

News 09/03/13 6pm : 30

It's that time of year again. Thousands of students are back in the Five College Area. The students' return also means a busy time for Amherst Police. UMass began its series of staggered move-ins last Friday. And it didn't take long for students to get settled and look for off-campus parties. According to Amherst Police arrest logs, 14 people were arrested over the weekend on charges of underage drinking and disorderly conduct. Last fall, joint police patrols were started with the UMass Police Department to spend more time in the Fearing and Phillips streets neighborhood and the North Amherst area.

News 09/04/13 6pm : 30

Holyoke police arrested a man on gun and drugs charges, after allegedly shooting a woman. Police Lt. Jim Albert told 22News 33-year-old Felix Martinez was arrested Tuesday morning. Two stolen guns and cocaine were found in Martinez's apartment on Bowers Street. The female victim was taken to the Holyoke Medical Center to be treated for a gun shot wound to her leg. The injury is non-life threatening.

News 09/04/13 11pm : 30

Disturbing details about an alleged rape that happened at a camp in the Berkshires. Prosecutors say 17 year old Galileo Mondol and two unnamed 16 year old soccer players from Somerville High School used a broom to rape a freshman boy and attempted to rape two others. The students were at Camp Lenox in Otis for a team-building retreat. The victims were also soccer players. Mondol was charged as an adult today and held without bail. His attorney said his client is innocent and tried to stop the alleged assaults.

News 09/05/13 6pm : 30

The assistant principal of Easthampton High School has been convicted of drunken driving for the third time. Anne Beauregard was given a one-year suspended sentence in Springfield District Court earlier this week. During that suspension she will remain on probation and will be randomly tested for alcohol during that time. She must also go to an inpatient alcohol treatment program. Beauregard was arrested in January. She was placed on paid administrative leave following her arrest on drunken driving charges.

News 09/06/13 12pm : 30

Police in Amherst have made an arrest following a series of car break-ins over the summer. Police Lt. Ronald Young told 22News that 40 year old Jose Laboy was arrested at his home in Springfield home. According to Lt. Young Laboy was allegedly linked to property stolen during the break-ins that happened in the parking lots of recreational areas over the summer. Laboy is being held in lieu of cash bail following his arraignment in Belchertown on a single charge of receiving stolen property over \$250 dollars. The stolen property has since been recovered by Amherst police. Lt. Young says that additional charges are expected as the investigation continues.

News 09/06/13 7am : 30

A man was stabbed following an armed street robbery in Springfield early this morning. According to Springfield Police, the stabbing happened just before 2 a.m. in the area of Wilbraham Avenue. Springfield Police Captain Trent Duda told 22news the victim was stabbed in the arm, and then the suspects stole more than \$300 from him. The victim was transported to Baystate Medical Center shortly after 2 am. He described the suspects as black men wearing dark clothes. One of them was carrying a gun, and the other was carrying a knife.

News	09/07/13	9am	: 30
Another random shooting has wounded a resident living in a Canon circle housing development in Springfield. Police Lt. Robert Moynihan told 22News, a bullet came through the door at 320 Canon Circle overnight. The man living there was shot in the arm. Last weekend, a neighbor sitting in the living room of her apartment at 72 Canon Circle was shot in the lower back when a rifle bullet came through the wall. The gunmen responsible for both shootings still haven't been caught. Lt. Moynihan said when shootings like these occur, they're usually traced to gangs and drugs.			
News	09/08/13	9am	: 30
Police in Springfield have arrested 37 year old Domingo Francisco. He was arrested on King Street after allegedly breaking into a home at 15 Olive Street at around 4:30 Saturday afternoon. Captain Cheryl Claprood told 22News that Domingo was seen pushing on an air conditioner to get into the house. Police found him about half and hour later on King Street, carrying jewelry.			
News	09/09/13	6pm	: 30
A Florida man who pleaded guilty to the theft of about 90 million dollars in prescription drugs from a warehouse in Enfield plans to plead guilty to similar thefts in 3 other states. Amed Villa was charged with stealing about 12 million dollars worth of cigarettes, cell phones, inhalers and multimedia tablets from warehouses in Florida, Kentucky and Virginia. His attorney confirmed Villa plans to plead guilty. The Cuban citizen pleaded guilty in July to theft and conspiracy charges after his participation in the theft at pharmaceutical company Eli Lilly & Company in 2010.			
News	09/12/13	12pm	: 30
A man from Amherst has been arrested for a pair of overnight robberies in Northampton. State Police told 22News that the 7-Eleven on King Street and the Cumberland Farms on Route 9 in Florence were both robbed during the overnight hours. Trooper Timothy Harrington arrested Marcus Roberson of Amherst at 3:30 the morning working with Northampton and Easthampton Police.			
News	09/13/13	6pm	: 30
An Easthampton man serving eight years probation after pleading guilty to involuntary manslaughter in the death of another man outside a Northampton bar is being sent to jail for violating his probation. James Duffy Jr. was sentenced to 2 1/2 years in jail Thursday after pleading guilty to violating probationary terms by drinking alcohol. Duffy pleaded guilty in 2010 in the 2009 death of John Connell. Prosecutors say Duffy shoved Connell down a set of steps outside the outside the Silk City Taproom after a fight inside. Connell hit his head and later died.			

News **09/13/13** **6pm** **: 30**

Connecticut Police arrested suspect after a hotel robbery in West Springfield. West Springfield Police Sgt. Nolan Ryan told 22News the man walked into the Hampton Inn on Riverdale Street around 4 this morning and showed the clerk a silver and black handgun. He took some cash and ran out, the clerk was not hurt. Police arrested a suspect in Connecticut later this morning. His identity has not been released, but west side police say he'll be charged in Massachusetts.

News **09/13/13** **7am** **: 30**

A 37-year-old man was arrested after police say he broke into a Springfield home. Domingo Francisco was arrested after Springfield Police say he broke into 15 Olive Street around 4:30 Saturday afternoon. Springfield Police Captain Cheryl Claprood told 22News that Domingo was seen pushing on an air conditioner to get into the house. Police found him about half an hour later on King Street, carrying jewelry.

News **09/14/13** **6pm** **: 30**

Two men are dead; they were reportedly shot to death in the area of Chestnut Park in Holyoke early this morning. An area where there have been many violent crimes during the past few months. David spoke with residents about the ongoing violence and its affect on the community. Multiple shots rang out from a gunfight in the area of Chestnut Park in Holyoke around 2 a.m. Saturday. Police received multiple 911 calls and when they arrived at the park by the intersection of Chestnut and Sergeant Street they found the crowd and two Hispanic men suffering from gunshot wounds. Both were pronounced dead shortly after, Lt. Jim Albert of the Holyoke Police Department told 22News the body of one victim remained on scene until daylight broke. Detectives from the Holyoke Police Department and State Police spent several hours piecing together a long trail of evidence that went from the far corner of the park to the alleyway connecting to Elm Street.

News **09/17/13** **12pm** **: 30**

Two men accused of stealing metal radiators from a Springfield house were arrested after police say they tried to bribe a neighbor not to report the theft. Police Sgt. John Delaney told 22News that 28-year old Nathaniel Guerra and 28-year-old Jose Gonzalez, both of Springfield, broke into a vacant house on Cleveland Street late Monday morning and stole large metal radiators. Neighbors noticed what was going on, and the two allegedly went up to a witness and offered them \$20 not to call the police. Someone called the police anyway, and officers came to Cleveland Street and arrested the two before they could get away. Both men are being arraigned in Springfield District Court today.

News **09/19/13** **11pm** **: 30**

34-year-old Dario Albizu-Ventura was arrested at Penn Station in New York City in connection with the robbery of a CVS Pharmacy on Center Street in Chicopee on August

15th. Chicopee Detective Michael Dion told 22News Ventura waived extradition and was brought back to Chicopee last night. Detective Dion said Ventura's also being looked at as a possible suspect in several other pharmacy robberies in Westfield, Holyoke and Longmeadow.

News **09/20/13** **7am** **: 30**

Police in Holyoke have released the names of the two men who were killed, less than 100 feet from a children's playground. The men are identified as 25 year old Richard Alequin-Hernandez of Chicopee and 20 year old Jose Santiago of Holyoke. At around 2 o'clock Saturday morning, gunfire shattered the early morning silence. Neighbors in the area of Chestnut Park woke up to find the men's bodies. Lt. Jim Albert told 22News they followed a trail of evidence from the far corner of the park to an alleyway that connects to Elm Street. Neighbors told 22News they're frightened by all the violence.

News **09/21/13** **9am** **: 30**

Two people are in critical condition in Springfield following a shooting. Springfield Police Captain Trent Duda told 22News a man and a woman were shot in the back and on the chest while walking on Magazine Street shortly after 2:00 this morning. The victims were taken to Baystate Medical Center and are said to be in critical condition. No arrests have been made.

News **09/21/13** **9am** **: 30**

A North Adams man has been charged with murdering an elderly woman in North Adams this week. Berkshire county district attorney David Capeless told 22news police arrested 41 year old David Delratez on Friday and charged him with murder and larceny of a motor vehicle. He is being held without bail pending his arraignment Monday in northern Berkshire district court, in North Adams. Delratez was arrested Thursday afternoon in Bennington, Vermont where police recovered the victim's car. Delratez and the victim, 84 year old Ellen Depaoli live at separate addresses on Walker Street in North Adams.

News **09/21/13** **9am** **: 30**

After an extensive investigation, police arrested two women on Pleasant Street in Easthampton Friday on drug charges. According to Easthampton Police Detective Robert Alberti, 54-year-old Marcella Severance was under investigation for running a drug trafficking organization in Easthampton. On Friday, the Easthampton Police Dept. and the Northwestern DA's Anti-Crime Task Force executed a search warrant at 175 Pleasant Street, arresting Severance and 38-year-old Heather Martinez.

News **09/22/13** **9am** **: 30**

One man is dead after a shooting in Springfield on Saturday night; marking the second shooting in just 24 hours in the city. The shooting happened outside this La Favorita mini mart on 179 Walnut Street around 9:30 last night. Springfield Police Lieutenant with the

Detective's Bureau Trent Hufnagel told 22news the victim, who died shortly after the shooting, is a 29 year old man whose identity has not been released. Lt. Hufnagel did not say if there are any suspects, but said the killing is still being investigated.

News 09/22/13 9am : 30

On Saturday, a Springfield bank was robbed, and police say the suspect threatened the teller saying he had a bomb. Springfield Police say the robbery happened at TD bank branch at the 'X' in Springfield just before noon on Saturday. Springfield Police Captain Mark Anthony told 22News, the man handed the teller a note demanding money and warning her that he had a bomb. The suspect is described as a short man in his 30's, with spiked hair and possibly Asian. He was seen wearing sunglasses and a Purple shirt. After leaving the bank at 561 Sumner Avenue, the man was seen crossing the street and driving away in a white four door car seen heading towards Ventura Street.

News 09/23/13 6pm : 30

A Westfield State University student has been charged with kidnapping and sexual assault, after he allegedly abducted an exotic dancer. According to a news release from Connecticut State Police, 21-year-old Aerin Reardon was arrested by troopers in Somers on Sunday.. At around 6:00 that morning, police were called by the husband of the 31 year-old alleged victim. He told them that an unknown man, claiming to be a police officer, had forcibly taken his wife from their Somers home.

News 09/23/13 6pm : 30

More violence in Springfield early this morning, one man was shot, and another was arrested following an incident downtown. Springfield Police Lt. Thomas Maccini told 22News that the 2:00 A.M. shooting happened in the area of 300 Worthington Street. Lt. Maccini says the gunshot victim was taken to the hospital, and is not cooperating with police. No names have been released at this time.

News 09/26/13 6pm : 30

Salem State College Campus Police say they've had previous contact with the man suspected of slashing two people on board a school shuttle bus. Campus police Chief Gene Labonte says 25 year old Timothy Wells was arrested by city police earlier this month after he was found on an under-construction football field with a 4-inch folding knife. Wells, a senior at Salem State, is currently on a voluntary leave of absence. He was captured last night when his car broke down on a highway in Chatham, New York, close to the Massachusetts border.

News 09/26/13 11pm : 30

Four men were arrested for trying to steal machinery, metal and pipes from the old Parson's Paper Mill in Holyoke. The mill on Sargeant Street was badly damaged during a fire in 2008

and is structurally unstable. It is now owned by the city of Holyoke and is fenced and secured, but Holyoke Police Sgt. Jim Albert said the suspects cut a hole in the fence and used a moving cart to move the stolen metals. Three of the four suspects are from Springfield the other is from Waterbury, CT. All four were charged with breaking and entering, malicious destruction of property, larceny and trespassing.

News **09/26/13** **11pm** **: 30**

Four men were arrested last night for robbing a 36 year old man in Springfield using a gun. Springfield police Sgt John Delany said the victim told officers he was pistol whipped by one of the men on Chapel Street. Delaney said they got away with more than \$100 dollars, a cell phone and car keys. Police with the help of one of their k-9's found the four suspects nearby in an abandoned home. The face armed robbery and drug charges. One of them, Justin Lewis also is charged with assault and battery with a dangerous weapon.

News **09/26/13** **4:30am** **: 30**

In Springfield, an overnight car crash ended in an arrest. Around 12:30-AM police were called to the intersection of Sumner Ave and Longhill Street. That's where a car crashed straight into a brick wall of a house. Captain Trent Duda told 22News the passenger was pinned inside the car and was rushed to the hospital once police were able to get her out. The driver was arrested for operating under the influence, and is in police custody this morning. No names have been released yet, but police say the passenger is expected to be okay.

News **09/27/13** **7am** **: 30**

One of two victims following a Saturday early morning shooting has died. Springfield Police say a man and a woman were shot shortly after 2:00 Saturday morning while walking down Magazine Street. Springfield Police Captain Trent Duda told 22News the victims were shot in the back and the chest. Both victims were taken to Baystate Medical Center where they were listed in critical condition. Springfield Police confirmed to 22News this morning that one of the victims has died as a result of their wounds. The other victim's condition is not known. No arrests have been made.

News **09/28/13** **9am** **: 30**

For the second weekend in a row gun shots have rung out in the streets of Springfield leaving a man dead. Blood and broken glass can still be found on Westminster Street where a 22-year-old man was shot once in the head. I just got off the phone with Sgt. John Delaney of the Springfield Police Department who said he later died at the hospital due to his injuries. Police responded to the shooting on Westminster Street by the Funeral Home just before 3:00 this morning, Springfield Police Lieutenant Henry Gagnon told 22News. The 22-year-old man had been shot while in his car. Police also found a gun in that car, Sgt. John Delaney told 22News. The victim was taken to Baystate Medical Center, and later died. This is the second weekend that there's been a deadly overnight shooting in Springfield. One man that

lives on Westminster Street told 22News it's a tragedy every time something like this happens in the community.

News 09/28/13 9am : 30

Ludlow Police need your help to find a man who tried to abduct two girls. According to a news release from Ludlow Police, a parent of two girls, ages 12 and 14, said that a stranger driving a van approached the girls Monday evening on Center Street. Ludlow residents told 22News it's important for all children to remember, never go anywhere with a stranger.

News 09/29/13 9am : 30

Springfield and Chicopee Police are searching for two men believed to be involved in an armed robbery. Just after 9:30 Saturday night two men with hockey style masks allegedly walked into the Pizza Hut on Liberty Street and showed a gun. Springfield Police Sgt. Lawrence Akers told 22News the men were last seen running near the back of the Pizza Hut toward Abbey Memorial Drive in Chicopee. Springfield Police contacted the Chicopee Police to tell them to be on the lookout for the men. There's no word yet on what, if anything was stolen.

The following is WWLP programming addressing Education during the 3rd quarter of 2013. These issues were addressed through our locally produced news programming.

News 07/01/13 5pm : 30

Some student loan rates doubled today. Student loan rates are twice as high today than they were yesterday. The increase passed without any action from Congress. College students applying for federal subsidized loans will now have to agree to pay an interest rate of 6.8%. The change is expected to affect students who are applying for loans this year. In Massachusetts, that's an estimated 158,000 students.

News 07/10/13 12pm : 30

Groundbreaking ceremonies took place this morning for the new Elias Brookings Museum Magnet School in Springfield. The new school will be on Walnut Street. It will replace the tornado damaged building on Hancock Street and will have a lot more space than the old one. The old school built in 1925 was battered by the tornado that hit Springfield in June of 2011.

News 07/25/13 5am : 30

The senate voted to move forward on a bipartisan student loan deal. It passed with an 81 to 18 vote. The plan will restructure government student loans and lower rates for students heading to college this fall. Three weeks after student loan rates doubled, senators from both parties came up with the deal. The house is now expected to consider the senate's version bill.

News 07/26/13 5:30pm : 30

Western Massachusetts middle school students from low income families spent the past two weeks at Holyoke Community college. They participated in the Quest program for students who show academic promise. Their studies include a culinary arts program. The students spend part of their summers here from the sixth grade through eighth grade. The students told 22News the program was a lot of fun, and helps shape who they are.

News 08/12/13 5pm : 30

It's that time of year when parents and students can get a little stressed out about who their teachers will be. Each school district uses slightly different tactics, including one school in West Springfield where its Principal is in charge of the assignments. He said all students have an equal opportunity to enroll in courses, but the school decides who teaches the

classes. He says most of the scheduling is done randomly in a computer; they try to take the human element out of most decisions.

News **08/15/13** **6pm** **: 30**

Parents in Belchertown now have to pay more for their kids to ride the school bus. The students in Belchertown affected are in grades 7th thru 12th. Parents used to pay \$80 dollars per child, per school year for a school bus pass. But this year it went up to \$100 dollars per student if they are bought before Aug. 28th, and \$110 dollars after that.

News **08/15/13** **5pm** **: 30**

Work crews have until the end of next week to finish the Forest Park Middle School renovations in Springfield. The 3 year, 43 million dollar project must be completed by August 26th, when 700 students return. The new classrooms, science labs and special education facilities are already completed. Some outside work still needs to be done.

News **08/16/13** **11pm** **: 30**

Elms College is set to open a new School of Nursing just in time for the 2013-14 academic years. The college said today that the new school, the first dedicated school at the Chicopee college, will offer bachelors and masters degrees in nursing. Elms has offered a nursing program for more than a decade, but College President Sister Mary Reap said that the new school will help the college change along with advancements in healthcare.

News **08/26/13** **6pm** **: 30**

School is back in session, but the school day is longer for some Springfield students. The Springfield Public Schools "Forward 5" initiative is adding an extra 45 minutes to the High School of Commerce, Chestnut Accelerated Middle School, Kennedy Middle School, Kiley Middle School, and DeBerry Elementary. The program focuses on small-group tutoring and revised teaching strategies in math, reading, and science. And the tactics have proved they help students in other cities.

News **09/06/13** **5:30pm** **: 30**

Westfield high school students have given their new dress code mixed reviews. The dress code that took effect Tuesday discourages students from wearing clothing that might be considered indecent. Some think the code is too vague, while others seem to feel it has merit.

News **09/18/13** **6pm** **: 30**

Federal Budget cuts have reduced Western Massachusetts' head start pre-school program for low income families. The Holyoke, Chicopee, Springfield Head Start program began its fall term today with two hundred fewer students. The agency would normally enroll 1,300

pre-schoolers.

News **09/22/13** **9am** **: 30**

Easthampton's new high school impressed everyone who came to the school's formal opening on Saturday. The hundreds of people who attended the ceremony had a chance to check out the nearly forty million dollar high school. The building's actually been open since April. Students and staff have had enough time to give their impression of the new high school.

News **09/27/13** **5pm** **: 30**

The Zanetti School in Springfield is celebrating a huge turnaround in student success. The once severely underperforming school is now on par with the top schools in the state, based on MCAS scores. Governor Deval Patrick visited the school to congratulate the teachers and students.

The following is WWLP programming addressing Environment during the 3rd quarter of 2013. These issues were addressed through our locally produced news programming.

News 07/01/13 6pm : 30

A strong line of storms swept through western Massachusetts this afternoon, downing trees and flooding roads. The town of Agawam seemed to be among the worst hit. It was around noon today when very heavy rain was moving through the area, but in Agawam not only did they have the rain, but very strong winds uprooted a number of large trees in the area. Those trees came crashing down on cars that were in a parking lot.

News 07/01/13 5:30pm : 30

Summer is about a third of the way through, but the rain has slowed summer tourism business in Franklin County. Not as many out of state plates from what I hear from business owners, but they are still doing alright and looking forward to a dry rest of the summer. The Mohawk Trail is a commonly used road for summer tourists to come see the attractions of Western Massachusetts. But there has been heavy rainfall over the past couple of weeks and not as many travelers on the roadway. Lawrence Wall has been in business at Outpost Specialties for over 41 years. Some businesses I spoke with today said that the movie, "The Judge" being filmed in Shelburne Falls actually brought in a lot of out of town customers and have balanced out the impact of all this rain.

News 07/18/13 6pm : 30

Its day five of a dangerous heat wave and people are desperate to cool off. It makes you more tired; for some, it makes it harder to breath and it can put people in a generally bad mood. This is our 4th heat wave this year. And it's not expected to let up until Saturday. This intense heat can cause health problems for people with chronic illnesses like asthma, diabetes, heart disease and can cause problems for the very young, very old, and pets. In general, the heat can make everybody miserable.

News 08/07/13 5:30pm : 30

After the heat waves in July, August is starting off on the tame side. We still have a month and a half left of summer, but for the time being there's no major heat in sight. Normal high temperatures this time of year are in the low 80's with normal low temperatures near 60. So far this month our highs have been close to normal with near record breaking cold overnight temperatures. Not to mention humidity has been low for a month that can be very sticky and hot.

News 08/09/13 5pm : 30

Western Massachusetts farmers have experienced some extreme weather this summer. It's either been too hot or two wet. Tom Calabrese, the owner of Calabrese farms in Southwick told 22News cooler weather this month is just what his apple and peach crop needed.

News 08/17/13 11pm : 30

The cooler air and lower humidity may help keep the bugs away, including those pesky mosquitoes that can sometimes carry potentially deadly diseases. Two weeks ago Eastern Equine Encephalitis was found in a horse in Belchertown. Belchertown and surrounding towns raised their West Nile and Triple-E threat level.

News 08/21/13 6pm : 30

A section of beach at the Otis Reservoir remains closed after a water sample tested positive for bacteria. The part of the beach that is closed is inside the Tolland State Forest. Security guards on duty there today told 22News the water is currently being re-tested and the swimming area will be reopened as soon as the bacteria levels are back to normal.

News 08/22/13 5pm : 30

New regulations could make the food we grow safer to eat. Farmers from all over Hampshire County met at a forum today to learn more about the FDA's proposed produce safety regulations. The government says they hope to prevent an estimated 1.75 million cases of food born illness every year. Farmers gathered in Hadley Thursday to speak out to representatives from the FDA and Congress. They're worried about added costs of proposed safety regulations on growing, harvesting, packing, and storing, produce. The representative of the FDA spoke said they hope their role in the proposed regulations will be less about inspecting and enforcing and more about education the farmers about food safety. State Secretary of Energy and Environmental Affairs Rick Sullivan told 22News he's concerned the added bookkeeping will take farmers away from what they do best, farming! Sullivan also said farmers in Massachusetts already spend \$7,000 to \$10,000 dollars a year just to meet current regulations. Congress will take public comment until November 15th.

News 09/02/13 5pm : 30

The state health department is advising four more southeastern Massachusetts communities to curtail outdoor evening events because of risk from mosquitoes with Eastern Equine Encephalitis. Health officials said Thursday that mammal-biting mosquitoes carrying EEE were found in Easton, Raynham, Taunton and West Bridgewater. Belchertown in western Massachusetts was earlier deemed at "critical" risk after EEE was found in two horses, and nearby Amherst was rated "high." Officials say people should use insect repellent, protective clothing and avoid being outdoors at dusk and nighttime when mosquitoes are most active.

News 09/03/13 6pm : 30

Now that we're into September we have less than 3 weeks until the official end of summer. September is very much a transitional month with a combination of fall and summerlike weather. August brought another wet month with higher than normal rainfall. So far this year we've had over 31 inches of rain, that's more than 6 inches wetter than a normal year through this point. The latest outlook from the climate prediction center is for a wetter and warmer than normal rest of the month.

News 09/04/13 6pm : 30

The Massachusetts Department of Public Health said today there is a third case of Eastern Equine Encephalitis in a horse this year. The horse with EEE was stabled in Tyngsborough in Middlesex County. The threat level has now been raised to critical there and surrounding areas have been raised to moderate. There has been one case of EEE in a human this year.

News 09/06/13 5pm : 30

Even though it was cool it wasn't quite cold enough to take care of the pollen or the mosquitoes. You'll see adult mosquitoes out and about. They'll drop off significantly in the colder temperatures and they won't be able to fly as well, but you'll still see them out and about until mid to late October. Things that have been cancelled because of the mosquito scare and the EEE and everything else hopefully now with the cooler weather coming in people can put that behind them and enjoy the fall. If you are an allergy sufferer we would really need the temperatures to dip down into the 20's for a number of hours to get rid of the weed pollen. Right now rag weed pollen is still at moderate levels.

News 09/13/13 6pm : 30

Severe thunderstorms moved through parts of western Massachusetts yesterday. On Thursday afternoon severe thunderstorms moved into Franklin County bringing heavy rains and strong gusty wind. In Deerfield along Route 5 there was damage to trees due to the strong gusty winds. Large trees came down and blocked roads.

News 09/16/13 6pm : 30

With a frost advisory in effect for tonight, some of us could see frost earlier than usual. A frost tonight would be about 2-4 weeks early. It's considered a "frost" when temperatures drop into the middle and lower 30's. A "hard freeze" happens with temperatures down to the upper 20's. If you look at this graphic, the normal first frost happens from late September through mid-October. A typical first freeze in western Massachusetts happens from mid to late October.

News 09/18/13 6pm : 30

There is a hint of color on the leaves, and it has businesses ready for tourism in Franklin County. It's still early, but the leaves are slowly starting to change color and fall to the ground

signaling a busy business season in Franklin County. The leaves are starting to show their color and more tourists are coming into Franklin County.

News **09/18/13** **5pm** **: 30**

A lot of people are hoping the bugs are gone after our recent chilly mornings. While its true bugs don't like this cooler weather, in some cases, the cold could make them more of a problem for you indoors! Dealing with bugs and bug spray has been difficult at times this summer. Our recent weather means bugs are less active during the day, because temperatures are cooler, but the cold at night is not all good news. Insects like stink bugs, lady bugs, box elder bugs, cluster flies and wasps will all head indoors to escape chilly nights and it will take much more than a couple dips into the 30's to rid us of these bugs for the year.

News **09/22/13** **6pm** **: 30**

A cool breeze brought in the change in seasons around western Massachusetts as summer ended in the middle of the afternoon. Autumn began exactly at 4:44pm Sunday, marking a time where we have roughly equaled the amount of day and night. Now spring can begin in the southern hemisphere. People are now looking forward to a season which brings tourist from near and far to enjoy the changing colors of New England.

News **09/25/13** **6pm** **: 30**

It's been a gorgeous first week of fall weather, but just what is this weather likely to mean for fall foliage? The weather, even as far back as the previous spring, plays a big role in how good the fall foliage turns out. Looking around, the early signs of the upcoming foliage season are already out there. But it won't be long until we're surrounded by different colors in the trees as fall foliage really gets going. While the peak of the foliage season is weeks away, we can already tell by looking at the weather this year that fall foliage should be particularly colorful, especially now that we're dry after a wet spring. However, good fall foliage is not yet a guarantee. If we get a sudden drop in temperatures, or unusually wet weather, then the fall foliage could turn out duller than expected. So far western Massachusetts has had only a little color showing, with moderate and high color in northern New England and parts of upstate New York.

The following is WWLP programming addressing Government during the 3rd quarter of 2013. These issues were addressed through our locally produced news programming.

News 07/01/13 6pm : 30

The state Legislature has approved the final version of the state budget. State lawmakers have approved the 2014 state budget for the fiscal year that starts today. It includes spending increases for education, cities and towns and other state programs. The state Legislature approved a \$34 billion dollar state budget, a \$1.5 billion dollar increase from last year. It includes nearly \$480 million dollars for higher education that will prevent tuition and fees from going up at all University of Massachusetts campuses this fall. The budget increases funding for cities and towns by about \$21 million dollars to \$920 million dollars. It withdraws \$350 million dollars from the state's rainy day fund, but leaves the account with a balance of more than one billion dollars. The budget relies on roughly \$500 million dollars in new revenue from a tax hike on gas, tobacco, and computer services. But those taxes are in a separate transportation-tax bill that Governor Deval Patrick won't sign. Patrick believes it doesn't raise enough money and plans to send the bill back with an amendment. Until then, the money that the state budget depends on hangs in the balance. All House Republicans voted against the spending bill. Governor Deval Patrick has 10 days to review the state budget before he signs, vetoes and sends it back with amendments.

News 07/11/13 5:30pm : 30

Governor Deval Patrick has signed a mid-year spending bill. Governor Deval Patrick has signed a \$125 million dollar midyear spending bill; a good portion of it will pay for last winter's snow and ice removal costs and other expenses. But Patrick is sending back sections related to welfare reform. Instead of requiring photo identification on EBT cards, he's asking the Department of Transitional Assistance to study its effectiveness and report back to the Legislature in three years. Last week the governor said many opponents of EBT card photo ID were concerned about the cost. Former Governor Mitt Romney rejected EBT photo ID out of concern that it was not cost-effective. Items that were approved in the spending bill include \$13 million dollars toward the June 25th U.S. Senate special election and \$10 million dollars toward summer jobs for at-risk youth.

News 07/12/13 5pm : 30

Governor Deval Patrick signed a \$34 billion dollar state budget today, but vetoed \$417,000,000 dollars in transportation and local aid pending the results of a separate transportation financing bill. The spending plan is for the fiscal year that started July 1st. Patrick said he hoped some of the vetoed spending could be restored if a dispute over the

transportation bill is resolved.

News **07/15/13** **6pm** **: 30**

The governor has slashed hundreds of millions of dollars from the state budget. Transportation funding, cities and towns stand to lose hundreds of millions of dollars, but the state Legislature is confident they can override the governor's cuts. Cities and towns stand to lose \$177 million dollars. Road and bridge repair money could be slashed by \$240 million dollars. Governor Deval Patrick says the state budget is unbalanced and so the cuts are necessary. But state lawmakers view the actions as old-fashioned politics. But the governor's vetoes forces the state Legislature to reconsider his concerns. The budget relies on money from a transportation-tax bill that hasn't been signed into law yet. Patrick says the tax bill doesn't close an \$800 million dollar gap needed to repair the state's roads and bridges. He says state budget money will be restored if the Legislature approves of a gas tax increase should Massachusetts stop collecting turnpike tolls in 2017. Lawmakers told 22News they'd be reluctant to balance the budget by cutting funding to cities and towns. They're confident they can override the governor vetoes with the necessary two-thirds majority. The House of Representatives will vote on the governor's state budget vetoes on Wednesday, the Senate will follow-up with a vote on Thursday.

News **08/10/13** **9am** **: 30**

Friday was Michael Knapik's last day as a State Senator. The ten-term republican announced last week that he'd accepted an offer to become Executive Director of University Advancement at Westfield State University. This week, Knapik told 22News that taking the opportunity at Westfield State made a lot of sense for a career transition. It's not only his hometown, but his mom and dad, as well as his wife, are graduates.

News **08/26/13** **6pm** **: 30**

The governor's race is taking shape as more candidates announce their campaigns. August is a slow legislative month on Beacon Hill, but politics outside the building are hot as gubernatorial candidates prepare for the election in 2014. State Treasurer Steve Grossman took time to speak with 22 News as he works the campaign trail in bid for Massachusetts governor in 2014. Grossman was the first to announce a run for governor in a field that now includes Democratic hopefuls Juliette Kayem, a former Patrick administration official, former Obama administration official Donald Berwick and Wellesley executive Joseph Avellone. Harwich state Senator Dan Wolf who founded airline business Cape Air has suspended his gubernatorial campaign. On the Republican side, former U.S. Senator Scott Brown says he will not seek a gubernatorial run. But Charlie Baker, who ran in the 2010 race, is expected to make an announcement after Labor Day. The race to replace former Westfield state Senator Michael Knapik also has political hopefuls in campaign mode. State Representative Don Humason was campaigning in Chicopee today for the seat. Tomorrow is the deadline to submit nomination papers.

News **09/16/13** **5:30pm** **: 30**

Massachusetts Attorney General Martha Coakley has officially launched her run for governor. Today Coakley said she wants to ensure that everyone has an opportunity to succeed, and that starts with a strong commitment to education. The 60-year-old Democrat lost to Republican Scott Brown in the 2010 special Senate election to succeed the late Ted Kennedy. She was re-elected Attorney General later that year.

News **09/17/13** **6pm** **: 30**

Voters in Holyoke are casting their ballots to narrow down the number of candidates running for mayor. The city clerk's office said there are more than 24,000 registered voters. Some of those voting today told 22News they think voting in the preliminary elections is equally as important as voting in the general elections.

News **09/17/13** **6pm** **: 30**

State Attorney General Martha Coakley stopped in Springfield today, as part of her campaign run kickoff to be our next Governor. It wasn't too long ago Martha Coakley lost in a run for U.S. Senate. Coakley said today she learned a lot from the failed run. She kicked off a state-wide tour and made a stop at Red Rose Pizza in Springfield, greeting voters and talking to them about what she'd like to do as Governor. In 2010, she lost to Republican Scott Brown in the special election to succeed the late Senator Ted Kennedy she said today back then there was a perception she wasn't working hard, this time she said she's going to be out talking to people and listening. She will also continue her role as Attorney General while on the campaign trail.

News **09/18/13** **5am** **: 30**

Voters in several western Mass. cities set the ballots for November. One of the biggest preliminary elections took place in Holyoke. Jeff Stanek will challenge first-term Holyoke Mayor Alex Morse in November after they both beat out 3 other candidates. Morse received the most votes last night, with 45%. But Stanek was close behind with 42% of the votes. Morse said he'll be focusing on his re-election campaign for the next 7 weeks pushing for public education and downtown revitalization. Stanek told 22News he's ready to go door-to-door for his campaign. He's a native of Holyoke and said he's ready to show voters how he can improve their city.

News **09/26/13** **12pm** **: 30**

Massachusetts is preparing for the implementation of the federal Affordable Care Act. Obamacare will add an extra \$400 million dollars in annual federal money to the state's health care system. The money will expand preventative services like shots, quit-smoking services, and cancer screenings; it will provide tax credits for employers; and 45,000 low-income employees will become newly eligible for MassHealth. The ACA education campaign comes as Congressional Republicans attempt to pass legislation that defunds Obamacare. Massachusetts officials say defunding the law would destroy the state's health care

improvements. Last year 60,000 seniors saw an average decrease in their prescription drug spending of \$667 dollars. That goes away. Coverage for children up to the age of 26 goes away. Massachusetts is working to be in compliance with the new federal law. 150,000 people enrolled in the state's subsidized health care plan, Commonwealth Care, will have to re-enroll starting October 1st.

News **09/27/13** **6pm** **: 30**

Massachusetts eliminates a new sales tax. The state potentially left \$160 million on the table it planned to use when Governor Patrick repealed the tech tax today. The tech tax is gone, less than two months from when we started getting taxed on computer and software services. Governor Deval Patrick, who was touring the Zanetti School in Springfield, says the legislature needs to figure out how to replace the \$160 million the tech tax was expected to bring in. The Governor wanted to use that tax money to invest in transportation and education. Now the state is going to have to find another way to pay for those things. The responsible thing for the legislature to do is to do with the hole created in this budget. So far they're looking the other way and hoping for the best. Governor Patrick proposed to generate more than \$1.9 billion in new taxes this year. What we're going to end up with is about 1/5 of that, or \$340 million. The Governor doesn't plan to propose any more taxes next year. It's an election year for state lawmakers, but it will be Governor Patrick's final year in office. The Governor did say the state has made more money than it anticipated these last two months, but it's a little early to count on that through June.

The following is WWLP programming addressing Health-Smoking during the 3rd quarter of 2013. These issues were addressed through our locally produced news programming.

News 07/10/13 6pm : 30

Medical marijuana could soon be sold out of dispensaries around Western Massachusetts. The recently passed state law allowing medical marijuana here in Massachusetts has towns looking at where dispensaries would best fit in. Chicopee passed an amendment to their zoning regulations to allow medical marijuana dispensaries into areas that are zoned for industrial use. These stores, however, aren't allowed to be too close to places where kids gather, like churches, parks, or daycares, according to Chicopee planning director.

News 07/10/13 5:30pm : 30

One organization is pushing for higher tobacco taxes. Last week, the state legislature approved a five-year transportation bill that would raise \$500 million in new taxes. Most of that will come from higher taxes on cigarettes. Legislators are proposing a \$1 per-pack hike in cigarette taxes. And the World Health Organization says it's the right approach. The agency's most recent report says higher cigarette taxes will help smokers kick the habit.

News 07/18/13 12pm : 30

Studies have shown CT scans of the lungs can lower a smokers' risk for lung cancer by 20%. Researchers at the National Cancer Institute wanted to see which smokers would benefit most from the screening. They assessed participants' risk based on how long they smoked, when they quit, their weight and whether they had been diagnosed with emphysema. They found those considered high-risk made up a majority of the patients whose scans prevented their death from lung cancer.

News 07/24/13 5pm : 30

Medical marijuana dispensaries will soon come to western Massachusetts, but Springfield's Mayor wants to make sure they're properly placed. Mayor Domenic Sarno wants to make sure the community it's placed in isn't adversely affected. The moratorium gives the city time to develop local controls to address permitting, citing, as well as public health and citing issues. He also wants to know what to expect after they go up, so they choose the best location. He says one thing he's not trying to do is slow the process down for those who need it.

News 07/24/13 11pm : 30

Springfield Mayor Domenic Sarno wants to put a hold on the process of bringing medical marijuana dispensaries to the city. Mayor Sarno is recommending a moratorium until the city can fully assess the law and craft a comprehensive plan. There are state regulations that deal with how to administer the law, but municipalities do have the ability to regulate the medical marijuana treatment centers. The applications to apply to be a dispensary agent have not yet been released.

News **08/01/13** **6pm** **: 30**

Protesters are opposing state regulations that create barriers to medical marijuana. For about five months, medical marijuana patients have been able to access cannabis through caregivers, but new state regulations are making it more difficult to obtain their medicine that way. A handful of medical marijuana supporters are protesting the state's new regulations that limit caregivers from selling pot to more than one patient. Michael Malta uses marijuana to treat his OCD and severe panic disorder. He says the Department of Public Health's rules are forcing him to seek medical pot through other means. Medical marijuana was legalized in January following a voter approved ballot initiative. But in May, the state release new regulations that encouraged pot access through dispensaries. There was a brief period where they could get medical cannabis from caregiver. Sometime in the next year when dispensaries finally open their doors the patients will now have greater more consistent access to medicine. But pot activists say some patients just prefer accessing pot through caregivers. The new regulations effectively prevent caregivers from selling pot because it's too expensive to grow the medicine for only one patient. The DPH is currently creating the application process by which medical marijuana dispensaries can apply for a license to sell pot in Massachusetts.

News **08/02/13** **6pm** **: 30**

State health officials are making preliminary applications available for non-profit medical marijuana dispensaries in Massachusetts. A law approved by voters last November allows for up to 35 dispensaries around the state to provide marijuana for people with certified medical conditions such as cancer, Parkinson's disease and AIDS. The applications are available online and must be submitted by August 22. Applicants must submit a non-refundable \$1,500 submission fee.

News **08/03/13** **9am** **: 30**

Non-profit companies can now begin applying to become a dispensary of medical marijuana. Under the new law, the state can issue up to 35 dispensary licenses. Each county has to have at least one dispensary but can't have more than five.

News **08/05/13** **5pm** **: 30**

Seven years into the health care reform and Massachusetts residents are satisfied with the health care they receive, according to a poll by Massachusetts Medical society. The poll also showed that the people think the cost of care is the most important health care issue.

News **08/05/13** **12pm** **: 30**

The state's public health agency is moving ahead with the licensing for medical marijuana dispensaries. The Phase I forms released by the Department of Public Health are meant to determine the financial stability of applicants seeking a dispensary license to sell cannabis in Massachusetts. Background checks will be conducted and applicants must disclose whether any member of their group has been subject to a felony drug conviction. Applicants who pass this first round of the application process can move onto the second round in the fall. During Phase II, a committee will thoroughly vet dispensary applicants based on a competitive selection process. Attorneys representing dispensary applicants are pleased with the progress the DPH is making. Applicants will have to pay a \$1,500 dollar fee with their Phase 1 application. They'll have to pay another \$30,000 dollars if they qualify for Phase 2 of the application process.

News **08/06/13** **5:30pm** **: 30**

Town leaders in Middletown, Connecticut have approved the use of a city-owned building for growing medical marijuana. The town's common council voted in favor of using the space Monday. A year ago Connecticut adopted legislation to allow medical marijuana. The law would allow anywhere from three to 10 secured marijuana growing facilities in the state. Middletown's plan still needs state approval.

News **08/13/13** **6pm** **: 30**

The town of Amherst will soon start considering where to place medical marijuana dispensaries. When it comes to establishing and operating a dispensary, there are many phases to this process. First it starts at the state level. The Department of Public Health has issued guidelines those looking to operate a dispensary must follow. The state will allow at least one, but no more than five dispensaries in each county. There is also a local process to this new law and that is the re-zoning of neighborhoods. Local planning boards will approve the use of a dispensary in their respective communities. On Wednesday, the town of Amherst will hold a meeting to start talking about possible locations. Some people are pushing for these treatment centers to be away from schools.

News **08/13/13** **5:30pm** **: 30**

Will higher priced cigarettes help people quit? The Hampshire Council of Governments believes that the one dollar increase on a pack of cigarettes will prevent some 27,000 Massachusetts teenagers from starting to smoke. Plus another 25,000 will quit. Not everyone agrees the extra dollar will be enough for smokers to kick the habit.

News **08/13/13** **5:30pm** **: 30**

Children and teens would be banned from buying electronic cigarettes under a bill being proposed on Beacon Hill. The bill would restrict the sale of any tobacco or nicotine delivery product to minors and prohibit use of the products on public school grounds. The bill's chief sponsor state Rep. Jeffrey Sanchez said the goal of the legislation is to modernize Massachusetts' tobacco laws which don't take into account the rising popularity of electronic cigarettes.

News **08/14/13** **5:30pm** **: 30**

Most people may not know it, but it's legal for minors to walk into most stores in Massachusetts and purchase electronic cigarettes. Right now it's legal for minors to buy e-cigarettes in most of Massachusetts. And while the FDA is working on guidelines for the product later this year, state lawmakers don't want to wait. Twelve states have passed legislation restricting e-cigarette sales, and Massachusetts State Representative Jeffrey Sanchez filed a bill Tuesday to make it illegal to sell e-cigarettes and nicotine products to anyone under 18. And while state lawmakers are calling for stricter regulations some stores are already regulating themselves. According to the U.S. Committee on Public Health about 1 in 5 current smokers use e-cigarettes. Many of them are trying to make the switch from cigarettes to the electronic version in an attempt to quit smoking. Sanchez's bill would also prohibit the use of e-cigarettes in all locations where smoking is prohibited.

News **08/19/13** **5:30pm** **: 30**

Several groups of health experts have come together to cut down on unnecessary medical tests and procedures. They estimate wasteful procedures may make up about 20% of health care costs in the US. A few of the latest recommendations include advising doctors against ordering chest radiographs for children with asthma, which can lead to the overuse of antibiotics due to false positives. They also recommend against treating reflux in infants with proton pump inhibitors. The latest studies show the treatment is not effective in babies and could cause side effects.

News **08/20/13** **6pm** **: 30**

If you want to open a medical marijuana dispensary in Massachusetts, the deadline to apply is Thursday. Herbie Flores, who heads the New England Farm Worker Council, is leading a group applying for a dispensary in Hampden County. Flores told 22News he started a corporation separate from the Farm Workers Council to apply for the dispensary. The corporation called Debilitating Medical Treatment Centers also includes former state senator Brian Lees. Flores told 22News if awarded a dispensary it isn't clear where it would be located.

News **08/22/13** **5pm** **: 30**

A state official says more than 100 groups have applied to operate nonprofit medical marijuana dispensaries in Massachusetts. Initial applications to operate nonprofit medical marijuana dispensaries had to be hand-delivered to the Department of Public Health today.

The law allows up to 35 dispensaries around the state to provide marijuana to patients with medical conditions such as cancer, Parkinson's Disease and AIDS.

The applications are in, and more than 180 people want a license to operate a medical marijuana dispensary. There were 181 applications submitted to the state to establish medical marijuana dispensaries in Massachusetts. One step closer in what's been a long and controversial road. There were 13 applications in Hampden County, 7 in Franklin and 5 in Hampshire, 3 in the Berkshires. There will only be 35 dispensaries license in the entire state. Herbie Flores, who heads the New England Farm Workers Council, wants one in Hampden County. Applicants will now under-go background checks and be screened for financial viability. The "phase one" initial review should be completed by mid-September, with licenses awarded by the end of the year. If you'd like to take a look at the full list of applicants, head to our website, [wwlp.com](http://www.wwlp.com).

There is some confusion from residents who say they have already been prescribed marijuana. A Springfield father and son were arrested for growing marijuana in their backyard, but say that a marijuana card allowed them to. To get a card you must have a debilitating medical condition. Until dispensaries open, doctors say you can obtain a limited cultivation license and a card that allows you to posses or grow a 2 month supply of medicine. It's been defined by the state as 10 ounces. And they can grow it, but it must be in a secure location and not visible. Northampton physician Jill Griffin says the system has flaws.

Massachusetts is beginning the process of vetting possible marijuana dispensaries. State lawmakers say some cities and towns are just not prepared for the voter-approved referendum law that legalized medical marijuana in Massachusetts, and now they're scrambling to develop regulations to address it. Nearly 200 applications have been submitted to the Massachusetts Department of Public Health for one of 35 licenses to build a medical marijuana dispensary in the state. As the DPH evaluates applicants for their financial viability and proposals in a two-step process, several cities and town have begun imposing temporary moratoriums on dispensaries. Cities and towns like Springfield, Palmer, and Agawam have placed temporary moratoriums on pot dispensaries because they wanted time to develop zoning laws or other regulations. While dispensary applicants do not need to cite a location right now, the DPH will be looking to evenly distribute them across the state to provide access and avoid clustering of dispensaries. Attempts by some towns to outright ban marijuana dispensaries have been struck down by the Attorney General.

News **08/27/13** **6pm** **: 30**

It's only August, but no doubt you're already seeing signs up promoting the availability of flu shots! Flu season usually begins in November and peaks in January or February. In order to create a vaccine to prevent or reduce the effects of the flu, scientists study the flu in the Far East or the southern hemisphere. So far the signs are that the upcoming flu season won't be anything unusual.

News **09/02/13** **5pm** **: 30**

The state health department is advising four more southeastern Massachusetts communities to curtail outdoor evening events because of risk from mosquitoes with Eastern equine encephalitis. Health officials said Thursday that mammal-biting mosquitoes carrying EEE were found in Easton, Raynham, Taunton and West Bridgewater. Belchertown in western Massachusetts was earlier deemed at "critical" risk after EEE was found in two horses, and nearby Amherst was rated "high." Officials say people should use insect repellent, protective clothing and avoid being outdoors at dusk and nighttime when mosquitoes are most active.

News **09/04/13** **6pm** **: 30**

The Massachusetts Department of Public Health said today there is a third case of Eastern Equine Encephalitis in a horse this year. The horse with EEE was stabled in Tyngsborough in Middlesex County. The threat level has now been raised to critical there and surrounding areas have been raised to moderate. There has been one case of EEE in a human this year.

News **09/10/13** **6pm** **: 30**

The pros and cons of legalizing marijuana were the focus of a landmark hearing on Capitol Hill today. Members of the senate judiciary committee heard testimony related to conflicts between state and federal marijuana laws. The hearing comes just a month after Attorney General Eric Holder announced that the federal government would no longer interfere in how individual states deal with medical marijuana laws. The Deputy Attorney General says the justice department is working with bank regulators to allow for credit card and check transactions in this currently cash only business.

News **09/13/13** **6pm** **: 30**

The Massachusetts Department of Public Health announced another case of West Nile Virus has been found in a human. A woman from Suffolk County was hospitalized, but then discharged. The investigation by the DPH showed that the patient was most likely exposed to infected mosquitoes in the county. This area is considered to be at moderate risk from West Nile Virus. Last year, thirty-three cases of West Nile were detected in Massachusetts residents.

News **09/18/13** **5pm** **: 30**

It's been almost a year since Massachusetts voters approved the use of medical marijuana. Springfield is the largest city in the Commonwealth with a moratorium, or a period of delay

before opening a dispensary. One Hampshire County town has also taken steps to delay the process. 65% of Massachusetts voters supported the medical use of marijuana last November. But almost a year after the passing of the law, one-third of the state's 351 cities and towns has instituted delays. Just west of Northampton, Williamsburg's administrator says the town needs more time to plan. Northampton Attorney Dick Evans told 22News these dispensaries will be tightly regulated from seed to sale. Under the law, one but no more than five dispensaries will be allowed in each of the state's 14 counties. More than 180 non-profits submitted initial applications. Those who make it to the next round will have to comply with town bylaws, which could keep dispensaries away from downtown areas, schools, and playgrounds. State officials say dispensaries should be registered to operate by January of next year.

News **09/19/13** **5pm** **: 30**

Doctors are urging you to get your Flu shot as soon as possible. Flu season traditionally begins in October. Dr. Marie Vitale of Doctor's Express in West Springfield said a person needs time to develop a protective anti-body after getting the shot.

News **09/20/13** **6pm** **: 30**

There's now a cut-off date for temporary moratoriums on medical marijuana dispensaries. The Massachusetts Attorney General's Office announced today that cities and towns will not be allowed to extend their moratoriums on dispensaries past December 31, 2014. That's a full 19 months after the Department of Public Health adopted regulations for establishing dispensaries. Currently, about a third of the state's cities and towns have enacted temporary moratoriums designed to provide more time to develop new zoning and other regulations.

News **09/21/13** **11pm** **: 30**

Flu vaccines are now available at drug stores or your doctor's office, but you'll probably have to pay. Older adults often find it convenient and cost effective to get their flu shot at their senior center. The Northampton Health Department is sponsoring just such a clinic next month.

News **09/23/13** **6pm** **: 30**

Medical marijuana is legal in Massachusetts, but some groups want pot legalized completely. Former police officers say putting people in jail for drug offenses makes it harder for them to get a job in the future and doesn't address drug use as an underlying health problem. With plans to support legislation next year that will legalize marijuana in Massachusetts, a group called Law Enforcement Against Prohibition or "LEAP" is warning state lawmakers that sending drug offenders to jail creates more problems than it resolves. LEAP believes it takes attention away from violent crime. According to the FBI, in 1963, police solved 91 percent of murders in the country, today they solve 61%. Like prohibition, LEAP says illegal drugs create an underground economy that drives up crime, shootings, and murder. Like anti-tobacco campaigns, LEAP says anti-drug campaigns should be focused on education and

regulation, not incarceration. While they hope to introduce a bill next year to legalize marijuana, ideally, they believe all drugs should be legal. So far, Colorado and Washington State have legalized marijuana through ballot petitions. Even though it is listed as an illegal substance by the federal government, the Department of Justice has said they will let the laws go into effect.

News **09/24/13** **5pm** **: 30**

Massachusetts Attorney Martha Coakley and other attorney generals are urging the US Food and Drug Administration to meet its own deadline and regulate electronic cigarettes in the same way it regulates tobacco products. In a letter it says e-cigarettes are portrayed as safe alternatives to traditional cigarettes. They are also becoming more affordable and available. But it says they are addictive and capable of delivering high doses of nicotine.

News **09/25/13** **11pm** **: 30**

Attorney General Martha Coakley says sales of e-cigarettes have doubled every year since 2008. 40 attorney generals, including Martha Coakley here in Massachusetts, sent a letter today to the Federal Drug Administration, urging the FDA to place age and advertising restrictions on electronic cigarettes. Electronic cigarettes or vaporizers are battery-operated products that heat liquid nicotine and produce a vapor. Some people say can help smokers quit smoking. There's no carcinogen. There's no carbon monoxide. There's no second-hand smoke, so it's not dangerous. But Massachusetts Attorney General Martha Coakley is concerned too many young people are using e-cigarettes. She said in a letter to the Food and Drug Administration, the e-cigarette use among students doubled between 2011 and 2012. Right now there's no nationwide age restriction on buying e-cigarettes. Coakley and 39 other attorney generals believe vaporizers should be regulated by the FDA, just like any other tobacco products. People think that's a safer version of the drug, but it's actually the drug, an even more lethal power of the drug. Attorney Generals also want the FDA to regulate advertisements, so the ads are not targeting teens. FDA's current deadline to issue regulations is October 31st.

News **09/26/13** **12pm** **: 30**

Massachusetts is preparing for the implementation of the federal Affordable Care Act. Obamacare will add an extra \$400 million dollars in annual federal money to the state's health care system. The money will expand preventative services like shots, quit-smoking services, and cancer screenings; it will provide tax credits for employers; and 45,000 low-income employees will become newly eligible for MassHealth. The ACA education campaign comes as Congressional Republicans attempt to pass legislation that defunds Obamacare. Massachusetts officials say defunding the law would destroy the state's health care improvements. Last year 60,000 seniors saw an average decrease in their prescription drug spending of \$667 dollars. That goes away. Coverage for children up to the age of 26 goes away. Massachusetts is working to be in compliance with the new federal law. 150,000 people enrolled in the state's subsidized health care plan, Commonwealth Care, will have to re-enroll starting October 1st.

The following is WWLP programming addressing Jobs during the 3rd quarter of 2013. These issues were addressed through our locally produced news programming.

News	07/05/13	5:30pm	: 30
Young people looking for summer jobs will be getting help from the state. The state Legislature has approved \$10 million dollars within in a midyear spending bill for a youth summer jobs program. The program, called YouthWorks, will provide roughly 5,000 jobs for teenagers from low-income households. They'll gain valuable job experience, training and in many cases, help their families make ends meet. Earlier this year, funding for the program was under threat of being cut in half, but Springfield state Representative Cheryl Coakley-Rivera pushed to continue funding the program at about \$10 million dollars. YouthWorks pays teens \$8 dollars an hour for 25 hours a week to work in government, private or non-profit companies. The money will be divided among cities across Massachusetts, including Springfield, Holyoke and Pittsfield.			
News	07/05/13	5am	: 30
Analysts are not expecting an exciting June jobs report when the numbers are released later this morning. The report is expected to show that the economy added 155,000 jobs in June, and the unemployment rate could fall to 7.5%. It remains to be seen if recent high school and college graduates are entering the workforce in high numbers. Some economists are hoping for a modest report because too much job growth could lead the Federal Reserve to end its stimulus program.			
News	07/09/13	5:30pm	: 30
Some welcome news for those searching for a job, more companies are hiring. This hiring boom is happening in the temp industry. There are so many temp jobs, new research says today's figures are just 2% below the industry's record peak in 2000. And the number of temporary work has jumped more than 50% since the recession ended four years ago. Masiello Employment Agency's Recruiter, Scott Kenfield, says that from manufacturing to office work, more companies are turning to temporary workers. He says many of their clients are not hiring temps to replace full time employees but rather creating new positions.			
News	08/08/13	6pm	: 30
A number of community groups are asking for a ballot question to raise the minimum wage from \$8 to \$10.50 an hour. According to the Hampden County Regional Employment Board there are more than 15 thousand people in our area who work for the minimum wage. It's \$8.00 an hour now but there are some people who want to change that. A coalition of community groups filed proposed ballot questions for the November 2014 election. One would raise the minimum wage from \$8.00-\$10.50 over the next two years and there are some people who think workers need the boost. The issue remains controversial, while it			

may better the worker; others say it could hurt small businesses. Bill Ward, CEO of the employment board says it hasn't been raised in 8 years and wherever you stand on the issue; it's time to at least talk about it. In order for this to be on the ballot, the groups must collect 200 thousand signatures in support of the question by December 4th.

News **08/15/13** **12pm** **: 30**

Good news on the job front the number of Americans seeking unemployment benefits dropped substantially last week. According to the labor department, the number of people seeking jobless benefits dropped 15,000. This brings the number to 320,000, the lowest in almost six years. In March of 2009, thought to be the height of the recession, applications for unemployment benefits reached 670,000. Hiring is not recovering as quickly. Employers hired an average of 4.3 million people a month through June of this year that is below the 2006 monthly average of 5.3 million.

News **08/20/13** **11pm** **: 30**

A glitch in the new unemployment filing system has many jobless people struggling to file their claims. State Secretary of Labor and Workforce Development Joanne Goldstein told 22News the new online system was launched six weeks ago. Right now less than one percent of claimants cannot get their benefits processed because of a system error. Secretary Goldstein said the department is hoping to resolve the issue soon.

News **08/23/13** **6pm** **: 30**

Hard Rock has promised to bring 3,000 permanent jobs if they win the casino license. Time is running out for Hard Rock to rally support for "Yes" votes on their host agreement with the Town of West Springfield. So tomorrow, they will be hosting a job fair to showcase some possible career opportunities. Hard Rock Vice President of Human Resources Kim Creighton told 22News the jobs available could range from food and beverage to casino gaming to management. The average salary could be anywhere from \$30,000 to \$120,000. Current Hard Rock employees from several departments will share their experiences tomorrow at the job fair. Creighton said she's encouraging people without any hospitality experiences to come learn about job opportunities as well.

News **08/23/13** **5:30pm** **: 30**

Springfield school bus drivers are among those frustrated by problems with the state's new On-Line unemployment filing system. The school bus drivers go back to work on Monday. They told 22News today they still haven't received the summer jobless benefits they applied for last June. They complain that the on-line system even denied them technical help.

News **08/29/13** **5pm** **: 30**

The number of Americans seeking unemployment benefits last week remained near the lowest level in more than five years. According to the Labor Department, the number of first-

time applications fell 6,000 to a seasonally adjusted 331,000. However, the four week average increased by 750 to 331,250 after falling to its lowest level since November 2007 the previous week. According to analysts, the broader trend suggests that companies are laying off fewer employees.

News **09/05/13** **5:30pm** **: 30**

Applications for unemployment benefits last week dropped to a near five year low. According to the labor department, the number of Americans applying for jobless benefits dropped 9,000 to a seasonally adjusted 323,000. That is near its lowest level since June 2008. Weekly applications came in just 1,000 above a five year low reached last month.

News **09/16/13** **6pm** **: 30**

The employment gap between America's rich and poor is the widest on record. Rates of unemployment for the lowest income families have topped 21%. A study of U.S. government data shows that households with more than \$150,000 a year have an unemployment rate of 3.2% meaning most have full employment. But middle income workers are taking lower-wage jobs displacing lower-skilled or income workers. People that have jobs say it isn't always easy to make ends meet.