

**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







**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







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

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.

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

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.

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

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 22<sup>nd</sup>, the Longmeadow Street CVS in Longmeadow on July 13<sup>th</sup>, the Walgreens on Northampton Street in Holyoke on July 9<sup>th</sup> and a Rite Aid in Enfield, Connecticut on July 6<sup>th</sup> 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**















**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



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 Claprod 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 Clapgood 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**                                      **09/14/13**                                      **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









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

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**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





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

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**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 too 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**









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 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter of 2013. These issues were addressed through our locally produced news programming.**

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**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**















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.