

**QUARTERLY ISSUES PROGRAM**

**LIST FOR**

**WWLP – SPRINGFIELD, MA**

Issues Program List Herein  
Covers the Period  
JULY 1, 2009 through SEPTEMBER 30, 2009





**News**                                      **07/13/09**                                      **5am**                                      **: 30**

Two men in Springfield are recovering after being shot overnight. It happened around 1:45 this morning in the area of Dwight and Worthington Streets. Springfield police captain Eugene Dexheimer told 22news, a fight broke out in the street and shots were fired. Two men were struck, one in the right arm, the other in the right thigh. Both were taken to Baystate medical center and are in stable condition. No arrests have been made; the detective bureau has taken over the investigation.

**News**                                      **07/15/09**                                      **11pm**                                      **: 30**

Chicopee police are searching for the man who robbed the Meadow Street Dunkin Donuts tonight. Chicopee Police Sgt. Holly Davis describes the suspect as a tall black man with a medium build, wearing a dark hoodie. She says the suspect walked into the Dunkin Donuts at 7:00 o'clock tonight, showed a handgun, and ran off with some cash.

**News**                                      **07/15/09**                                      **5am**                                      **: 30**

Police in Springfield are searching for suspects after a pregnant woman and a man were stabbed overnight. It happened just before midnight near Mill and Locust Streets. Lt. Trent Huffnagel from Springfield police told 22news the 41 year old man and 36 year old woman were walking home when they were attacked by two black men. Lt. Huffnagel said the man was stabbed in the back. The woman was stabbed in the abdomen and the thigh. Both were taken to Baystate medical center and are expected to be ok. No word this morning on the condition of the five-week old fetus.

**News**                                      **07/15/09**                                      **6am**                                      **: 30**

A 43 year old Springfield woman was stabbed in the face during a robbery overnight. Springfield police Lt. Trent Huffnagel told 22News, it happened around 24 High Street near the downtown area. Lt. Huffnagel said the man took about 50 dollars from the woman before he stabbed her. She was rushed to Baystate medical center for treatment, no word on her condition. No arrests have been made.

**News**                                      **07/15/09**                                      **12pm**                                      **: 30**

Springfield Police have determined that 38 Year Old Ana Cruz of Springfield was murdered before her house was set on fire. In a news release from Springfield Police Sgt. John Delaney, an autopsy confirmed that Cruz had been stabbed numerous times on the torso and arms. She died from those stab wounds and smoke inhalation. Cruz's body was found early Sunday morning by Springfield firefighters as they responded to a house fire at 681 Bay Street. Sgt. Mark Rolland of the Springfield Police Department's Crime Scene Unit examined the body of Ms. Cruz and he observed numerous puncture/stab wounds on her chest, back and arms. The "Arson Squad" has determined that the fire was deliberately set to cover up







police after he saw the pair allegedly breaking into the Glenwood School. Both men face charges of breaking and entering and possession of burglary tools.

**News**                                      **08/05/09**                                      **5pm**                                      **: 30**

This man 28 year old Yasir Creach, who's address is listed as a Springfield homeless shelter, is accused stealing a lock box containing about 250 dollars in donations for the Ronald McDonald house. The alleged robbery happened yesterday from the counter of a Mcdonald's restaurant on Plainfield Street. According to Police Sgt John Delaney the items were recovered after Creach was spotted and arrested later that night in Downtown Springfield.

**News**                                      **08/07/09**                                      **6pm**                                      **: 30**

A Springfield man suspected of beating another man to death with a baseball bat is arrested after more than two months on the run. Duran Laquin Alexander was arrested just after 6 this morning at a home in Gilbertville, which is north of Ware. Springfield Sergeant John Delaney says Alexander struck 39 year-old Emilio Marty in the head with a bat on May 29th during a fight. Marty died at a hospital about a week later. Delaney says the two men knew each other. Alexander is being charged with murder and assault and battery with a dangerous weapon.

**News**                                      **08/07/09**                                      **11pm**                                      **: 30**

Breaking news out of Springfield where police have recovered weapons in a shooting that left one man seriously wounded. Springfield Police Captain C-Lee Bennett told 22News the High-Tech Shot Spotter sounded the alarm at 11 Willard Street about ten of ten tonight. Police arrived to find a victim who'd been shot twice. Captain Bennett said police are looking for a large dark SUV, and that police have recovered two weapons.

**News**                                      **08/09/09**                                      **9am**                                      **: 30**

State and local police are in downtown Holyoke investigating an early morning shooting where one man was killed. A man thought to be in his twenties was shot dead in the city early this morning. State and local police are following a trail of blood, hoping to lead them to clues to the city's second homicide of the year. Sgt. Richard Stewart told 22News someone walked into nearby Holyoke Police Headquarters around 5:00 Sunday alerting them to a lifeless body, covered in blood on the corner of High and Dwight Streets, downtown. Police and paramedics soon realized the Hispanic man was already dead, killed by gunfire, across from city hall. The man's body remained on the sidewalk for much of the morning, covered by a yellow tarp before being removed for an autopsy by the medical examiner. Detectives from the Massachusetts State Police also descended on the area to process the crime scene with their forensics team. A large area from High to Maple Street blocked off for the investigation. Police also secured an area on Maple Street in front of the Holyoke House, a boarding house, discovering evidence linking the two crime scenes together. Captain Arthur Monfette told 22News it appears the victim was shot there, before collapsing on High



**News**                                      **08/17/09**                                      **5:30pm**                                      **: 30**

A Springfield woman has been arrested and charged with setting fire to her neighbor's apartment following an argument. According to Springfield Police Sgt. John Delaney, police arrested 26 year old Sonia Mendez and charged her with Arson. Police received a call just before 3:30 this morning that someone set fire to the rear of a home at 47 Nursery Street. Police had responded to a call of women fighting there just a half hour earlier. A short time later, police arrested Mendez at a nearby gas station.

**News**                                      **08/21/09**                                      **11pm**                                      **: 30**

Springfield Police assisted Holyoke Police with an investigation that escalated into a brief armed standoff in Springfield's North End. It happened in an apartment at 30 Cumberland Street about 7:30 tonight. Springfield Police Lt. Robert Strempek told 22News Holyoke Police were questioning a man at that location, when he became agitated, grabbed a knife and barricaded himself inside. Lt Strempek said the man stabbed himself in the abdomen, and was taken to the hospital. Holyoke police have not revealed the nature of their original investigation.

**News**                                      **08/21/09**                                      **11pm**                                      **: 30**

A Palmer man faces a slew of charges stemming, from a police pursuit that started in Palmer and ended in Chicopee tonight. Chicopee Police Captain Thomas Shorette told 22News that 31 year old Steven Beauregard faces several counts of assault and battery with a dangerous weapon, resisting arrest and larceny of a motor vehicle. Chicopee police joined the chase of an SUV followed by several State Police Cruisers around seven this evening. The Jeep Cherokee was running on rims because Belchertown police put down stop sticks that flattened the tires earlier in the chase. Captain Charette said the driver rammed one of his cruisers and one of his officers suffered some minor scrapes. Beauregard faces arraignment in Chicopee District Court tomorrow.

**News**                                      **08/23/09**                                      **6pm**                                      **: 30**

The killer who gunned down a 21 year old Springfield man yesterday in a shopping center parking lot has triggered a severe climate of fear in the Mason Square neighborhood. People have been shaken up by this latest crime of violence. The murder of a young man and the wounding of a 13 year old boy in broad daylight Saturday evening at the Mid Town Shopping Plaza parking lot. Springfield police spokesman Sgt. John Delaney told 22News, the murder victim was shot five times. The teenager was wounded in the leg. Delaney's not sure about why the gunman opened fire but gang warfare's not out of the question. Who did it and why have yet to be answered in the wake of this killing in the heart of a Springfield neighborhood.

**News**                                      **08/24/09**                                      **11pm**                                      **: 30**

Someone tried to pull a fast one on a flee market vendor in Hadley when they attempted to pay in counterfeit money. Hadley Sgt. Damion Shanley told 22 News a woman identified as a







**News**                                      **09/15/09**                                      **5:30pm**                                      **: 30**

In Springfield one person has killed during an afternoon shooting, and Lt. Thomas Kennedy told 22News the victim died after being gunned down in a stairwell on the second floor of the Bergen Circle Apartments in Mason Square. The shooting happened around 2 this afternoon at 15 Girard Avenue. Police are actively investigating the 14th homicide of the year in the city and are currently interviewing witnesses.

**News**                                      **09/16/09**                                      **11pm**                                      **: 30**

Springfield police identified the victim as 27 year old Tory Smith. He was shot to death in a Mason Square apartment complex. One man is now in custody, charged with murder. Shortly before 2 O'clock Tuesday afternoon, Springfield police arrived at the Bergen Circle Towers on Gerard Avenue to find 27 year old Tory Smith bleeding in a stairway, he had been shot once in the chest. Officers performed CPR but he later died. Sgt. John Delaney told 22News police arrested 24 year old Shadeed Jameel Mahdi and charged him with the murder. The violence frightens neighbors. Just last weekend, 3 people were wounded in a drive by shooting just a few streets away. And last month, a young man was shot and killed also in broad daylight in a McDonald's parking lot. Sgt. John Delaney tells 22 News the murder was gang related.

**News**                                      **09/16/09**                                      **11pm**                                      **: 30**

Springfield police are looking for two armed suspects who robbed a fast food restaurant tonight. Springfield Police Captain C Lee Bennet told 22news the Burger King at 489 State Street was robbed at about an hour ago. One of the suspects threatened the clerk with a gun and escaped with some cash. Detectives are looking at surveillance video. No one was hurt.

**News**                                      **09/16/09**                                      **11pm**                                      **: 30**

Springfield Police were called to a drive-by shooting. Captain C Lee Bennett told 22 News someone in a green van fired shots at a home on King Street around 5 O'clock. No one was hit.

**News**                                      **09/17/09**                                      **11pm**                                      **: 30**

In Springfield, Police are looking for a suspect who shot a man in the leg one hour ago. Captain C. Lee Bennett told 22news the shooting happened at the cross-section of Bay and Sycamore Streets in Springfield at about 10 O'clock. Capt. Bennett told 22news the victim was shot in the ankle and transported to a local hospital. She says police do not have a description of the shooter.

**News**                                      **09/17/09**                                      **5pm**                                      **: 30**

Federal authorities have charged 10 men with being involved in a heroin distribution ring run out of a Holyoke barbershop. According to the Associated Press Prosecutors said 34-year-













**The following is WWLP programming addressing Environment during the 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter of 2009. These issues were addressed through our locally produced news programming.**

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**News**                                      **07/01/09**                                      **11pm**                                      **: 30**

State environmental officials are looking for bids to install solar-powered energy at some publicly owned facilities. The plan to generate 16 megawatts of solar-powered energy will bring panels to Westfield State College, and state water resource facilities. The solar stimulus plan's 20 million dollars will help finance the solar installations. The energy and environmental board says it is seeking bids to install a set of solar panels to produce 5.35 megawatts of electricity.

**News**                                      **07/01/09**                                      **11pm**                                      **: 30**

Scientists have long cited fossil fuels as an environmental hazard, but kicking our addiction to oil may also save consumers in the long run. They're used to heat our homes, drive our cars, and even send our mail. There's no avoiding American's dependence on fossil fuels. If your earnings are at the mercy of your electric, gas, or car bills now a 47% percent increase is certainly unwelcome! That's how much more each Massachusetts resident will pay for these services in 20 years. Environment Massachusetts, a state advocacy organization, crunched the numbers and released a report on Tuesday. The headline: Massachusetts will spend more than \$545 billion on fossil fuels by 2030. Now when we put in monetary terms how much it's actually costing us, I think it's starting to wake people, once again to the actual damage of fossil fuels. Local agencies hope these results will inspire the state to invest in renewable resources. In the past manufacturers have cited the high cost of electricity as reason to move their operations outside of Massachusetts now, investing in alternative energy could really give the bay state an economic advantage. It would create jobs, boost the economy, and benefit the environment.

**News**                                      **07/03/09**                                      **5pm**                                      **: 30**

Farmers here in the Pioneer Valley say their produce is growing slow this summer. All the rain we've been having has caused a slow down in the corn production in Western Massachusetts.

**News**                                      **08/03/09**                                      **5pm**                                      **: 30**

A scare at a New Bedford trash disposal company after hazardous fumes knocked at least 10 people unconscious and sent more than 50 people to the hospital. At least two victims are in critical condition according to authorities. Chief Paul Leger says firefighters responded to ABC Disposal Service Incorporated just after 10 this morning to a report that something that had been brought to the facility was making people sick. The victims were decontaminated





**The following is WWLP programming addressing Health during the 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter 2009. These issues were addressed through our locally produced news programming.**

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**News**                                      **07/01/09**                                      **11pm**                                      **: 30**

An employee at Baystate Medical Center has been infected with the swine flu. Hospital spokesman Keith O'Connor confirms that the employee is a nurse. O'Connor says that the she is recovering at home, and is doing well. He says this is an isolated case and the public need not be alarmed.

**News**                                      **07/02/09**                                      **11pm**                                      **: 30**

Massachusetts is the second thinnest state in the country, with a 21% obesity rate. A "Trust for America's Health" report reveals obesity rates among adults rose in 23 states over the past year.

**News**                                      **08/05/09**                                      **12pm**                                      **: 30**

High unemployment is draining a state program that provides health insurance to people who are out of work. The Boston Globe is reporting that state officials say the medical security program will run out of money by January because more people are unemployed. The office of labor and workforce development is proposing an increase in per employee taxes, but business leaders say that would put a strain on companies that are already struggling.

**News**                                      **08/05/09**                                      **12pm**                                      **: 30**

Local cities and towns prepare for a potential swine flu outbreak. Tonight, three communities reveal their plans to prevent this potentially deadly virus. Springfield is gearing up for what could be a busy flu season. The H1N1 virus is in the mix this year and the city isn't taking any chances. There's a swine flu task force in place to plan and prepare for a potential outbreak. Division of Health and Human Services Director Helen Caulton Harris says they're taking a three prong approach. The Springfield swine flu task force meets every week to continue developing a plan of action. Here in Chicopee, a 12 member task force is scheduled to meet every two weeks this fall. They're in charge of planning and prevention efforts. Mayor Michael Bissonette told 22News, the city will offer swine flu vaccine, starting with 'at-risk' groups. In the meantime, they're focusing on raising awareness on the H1N1 virus. West Springfield's approach also makes schools a priority. And that could be as early as October.

**News**                                      **08/07/09**                                      **6pm**                                      **: 30**

It's all about prevention at UMASS Amherst. They're hoping information will be the key to preventing an outbreak. Colleges are known for being a breeding ground for viruses. Still some UMASS Amherst students think they're immune from swine flu. That's why the school is making sure to arm its students with tools and information. If you're a new student, they've giving out bags of food and inside are hand sanitizer. They're just giving them out so it helps a lot. The University is trying to educate students about how to prevent swine flu. They've put up informative posters in resident halls and they've even sent out emails. But the school's website is giving out tips that go beyond hand washing, they include coughing into your elbow and not sharing drinks all things to make sure this is a healthy and productive school year. If students do contract swine flu, there is a plan in place to handle that situation. Students will have to stay out of classes and the faculty has been instructed that they will have to work with absences if students do get sick.

**News**

**08/17/09**

**11pm**

**: 30**

Paying for health insurance may soon be even more of a headache. Massachusetts' largest health insurers say they plan to raise premiums by 7 to 12 percent next year. Insurers predicted that many employers will try to cut costs by instituting "cost sharing," which boosts co-pays for doctor visits, or by offering less comprehensive coverage. That puts the burden of higher premiums of workers rather than their employers.







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

New numbers from the US Department of Labor are painting a grim picture for job seekers. The national unemployment rate is now at 9.7 percent the highest it has been in 26 years. The latest numbers from the US Department of Labor show the nation's job market continued its steady decline in August. At 9.7 percent the country's unemployment rate is the highest it has been since 1983. As unemployment numbers rise demand for services at Career Point in Holyoke is also steadily climbing. Continuing the trend the report shows the construction industry cut the most jobs, while the health care industry added the most. But as job seekers are finding even though the medical field is hiring, competition is tough. And judging by the numbers the hunt for many of these people may not end soon. The Cash for Clunkers program did have an impact on jobs according to the report released today. There were 5-thousand new jobs at auto dealers but 15-thousand jobs were lost at auto plants and auto parts makers.

**News**                                      **09/07/09**                                      **5pm**                                      **: 30**

For the first time in history, women may be about to surpass men in the workforce. According to USA Today, Men make up 74% of the population of people who have lost their jobs as a result of the recession? So that's one of the reasons women are approaching the majority of the workforce. Now, according to a USA Today article, experts say that women could surpass men in the workforce as soon as October. Currently, women hold 49.83 percent of the nation's jobs according to the Bureau of Labor Statistics.

**News**                                      **09/08/09**                                      **5pm**                                      **: 30**

One of Springfield's biggest employers is handing out dozens of pink slips. MassMutual spokesperson Mark Cybluski told 22News that 160 positions are being eliminated. He says it is the final phase of an initiative launched in the spring to streamline the workforce. The layoffs are expected to produce a net workforce reduction of four to eight percent at MassMutual.

**News**                                      **09/08/09**                                      **5:30pm**                                      **: 30**

The jobless picture is about to get worse. By Thanksgiving, 400-thousand unemployed people in Massachusetts will have exhausted their unemployment benefits. Thousands of unemployed people in the state are getting a dreaded letter notifying them that their unemployment benefits are drying up. By the end of the week 25 hundred Massachusetts residents will lose their unemployment benefits. That number will jump to 400-thousand by Thanksgiving. Some have already extended their benefits up to 79 weeks a record in Massachusetts. With 400,000 people across the state of Massachusetts expecting to receive their last check within the next couple of months resources like the Food Bank of Western Massachusetts are expecting to see an increase in demand. Compared to last year the food bank has already made 750-thousand more meals available. Until they get that last check in the mail many people are scrambling to find work before they have to reach for the next level of government aid. Andrew Moorehouse from the food bank encourages anyone who needs

help putting food on the table to consider the federal food stamp program, now called the supplemental nutrition assistance program or SNAP. The next step for some would be welfare.

**News**                                      **09/10/09**                                      **5pm**                                      **: 30**

A Franklin County hospital is the latest to announce job cuts. Baystate Franklin Medical Center in Greenfield is eliminating 51 jobs and closing some units to deal with a \$1.6 million dollar operating loss last year. Officials at the Greenfield hospital say the outpatient behavioral health and substance abuse units will be closed, and those services will be handled by the human services agency, Service Net. The programs will close Dec. 9.

**News**                                      **09/14/09**                                      **5pm**                                      **: 30**

The challenging economy is driving more people to apply for jobs at New England's largest fair. Big E President Wayne McCary told 22News, they've seen an additional 1 thousand applicants this season. That's about a 15 to 20-percent increase over last year. He says the pool of job seekers is not only bigger, but many are overqualified.

**News**                                      **09/18/09**                                      **11pm**                                      **: 30**

The debate over casino gambling in Massachusetts continues. And some people in the town of Palmer are hoping that if the casino does come to their area it will bring a wave of job opportunities. The possibility of a casino coming to the town of Palmer is getting people from all over Western Massachusetts talking about the potential. Right now we're outside of the Mohegan sun office located in down town Palmer and some residents told 22news having a casino here in their community will not only impact their neighborhood but also throughout the Pioneer Valley. If gambling is legalized in Massachusetts, Mohegan's proposal is to create over 1,000 construction jobs and 3,000 permanent casino jobs for residents of Palmer, Springfield and the entire Pioneer Valley. Thursday night the Pioneer Valley Jobs coalition, who support Mohegan Sun's proposal, met to discuss the need for economic development in the area. Casinos usually have a mixed impact on the economy there are jobs that are created but there's a lot of money that leaves the area because the casino investors are usually out of town and very often out of the country.

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

Local employment experts say the Springfield job market is still in the doldrums. Year over year numbers are down, but despite the grim news, a Springfield career center believes the job market is moving in the right direction. Future Works Career Center in Springfield served more than 27-hundred job seekers in August. Their latest employment statistics show, that number's up 10-percent from the same time last year. The good news is that's down 9-percent from July. The number of employers listing job postings at Future Works remained flat in August. Business Services Manager Kevin Lynn told 22News, it's the result of businesses being cautious, and making the most productivity out of their current staff. Future



**The following is WWLP programming addressing Smoking during the 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter of 2009. These issues were addressed through our locally produced news programming.**

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**News                                      08/26/09                                      11pm                                      : 30**

The right to smoke in private clubs remains intact tonight in East Longmeadow. According to East Longmeadow Board of Health Chairman Jim Driscoll, no one took the opportunity to speak in favor of a proposed smoking ban at tonight's public hearing. But there was plenty of opposition from representatives of the American Legion and the Knights of Columbus. They say people know smoking's allowed in these private clubs and they can choose to come in, or not.

**News                                      08/31/09                                      5pm                                      : 30**

Even small amounts of smoke raise the risk of death from cardiovascular disease, including stroke, that's according to the results of a new study, that study released this afternoon by the American Heart Association finds that even smoking just several cigarettes a day raises the risk, and by the way those exposed to low levels of second hand smoke are at risk. The Associate Director of the Cardiac Cauterization Lab at Baystate Medical Center said it's hard to determine what constitutes a "low level" of tobacco exposure.

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

An anti-smoking organization has an idea to cut health care costs, impose higher premiums on smokers. The group, "Action on Smoking and Health, or "ASH," wants to incorporate a user fee on health insurance premiums for those who choose to smoke. The idea makes sense to local non-smokers who think it might result in fewer people who smoke.