

## Little to prevent retiree double dip

State relies on the honor system for those back at work and over cap

By Matt Stout  
GLOBE STAFF

Massachusetts is relying on a “deeply flawed” honor system to ensure that retired employees who return to the public sector obey state limits on their earnings, according to state investigators, who found that there is little to no oversight and that even calculating how much a retiree can make is extraordinarily complicated.

Inspector General Jeffrey S. Shapiro said there’s no central agency that monitors whether retirees in the state’s multibillion-dollar retirement systems are abiding by laws that dictate how much they can earn from a public agency while still collecting their taxpayer-funded pension.

Instead, his office wrote in a new report, the rules are primarily enforced “through a self-monitored honor system,” where oversight of the state’s roughly 240,000 retirees and beneficiaries — thousands of whom can

PENSIONS, Page A7

## Judge rejects bid to toss out Read case

By Travis Andersen  
GLOBE STAFF

A Norfolk Superior Court judge on Tuesday declined to dismiss the murder indictment against Karen Read, clearing the way for trial in a tumultuous legal saga marked by allegations of police misconduct that have prompted a separate federal probe.

In a 24-page ruling, Judge Beverly J. Cannone rejected Read’s motion to dismiss the case, saying any indications of misconduct that have surfaced to date, as well as other objections raised by her attorneys, are not enough to undermine the “extensive evidence supporting the indictments.”

“To the extent that the Commonwealth improperly put before or withheld any evidence from the grand jury, it is unlikely that it affected the outcome of the proceedings,” Cannone wrote.

Read’s lawyers declined to comment. Norfolk District Attorney Michael W. Morrissey

READ, Page A7

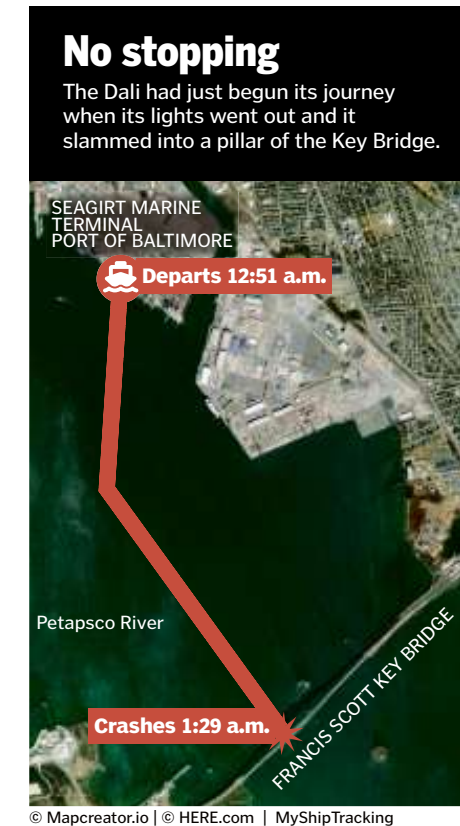
## Skepticism on limiting abortion pill

As protesters rallied outside, the Supreme Court seemed to oppose efforts to severely curtail access to mifepristone, and appeared likely to side with the federal government. **A2.**

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## After bridge collapses, questions about ship

Crash called accident; Baltimore roadway will be out for years

By Thomas Fuller  
NEW YORK TIMES

As a spring tide rushed out of Baltimore harbor just after midnight Tuesday, the hulking outlines of a cargo ship nearly three football fields long and stacked high with thousands of containers sliced through frigid waters toward the Francis Scott Key Bridge.

The vessel, the Dali, was a half-hour into its 27-day journey from Baltimore to Colombo, Sri Lanka.

Then the lights on the Dali went dark. The crew urgently reported to local authorities that they had lost

power and propulsion. The ship bore down on the bridge.

In a scene captured from a live-streaming camera, the ship smashed into a pillar of the bridge

►Mass. officials confident the state’s bridges are safe. **B3.**

with so much force that the massive southern and central spans of the bridge collapsed within seconds.

A highway repair crew was on the structure, working the night shift, filling potholes. At least eight members of the crew plunged into

the 50-foot-deep Patapsco River below.

Six were still missing by early evening as search crews scoured the waters by boat and helicopter. Two construction workers were rescued from the water, and one went to the hospital early Tuesday. He had been released by Tuesday afternoon.

The spectacular collapse of the 1.6-mile bridge, sealed into the memories of the countless people who viewed video of the ship bearing down on the bridge, was described by officials as an accident.

BRIDGE, Page A5



KAITLIN NEWMAN/THE BALTIMORE BANNER VIA ASSOCIATED PRESS

The ship urgently reported to local authorities that it had lost power and propulsion, but it was apparently too late to avoid the bridge.

## Steward Health Care has deal to sell its doctor network to UnitedHealth

Growing market power of Optum brings concerns

By Aaron Pressman,  
Jessica Bartlett,  
and Robert Weisman  
GLOBE STAFF

Troubled hospital operator Steward Health Care, grappling with a financial crisis that’s engulfed its eight Massachusetts hospitals, has struck a deal to sell its nationwide physician network to insurance giant UnitedHealth’s Optum Care unit.

The proposed sale of the doctors group, called Stewardship Health, is part of Stew-

ard’s plan to shore up its finances and bolster its nationwide network of 33 hospitals after the Dallas-based company last year fell behind in paying bills and rents.

The sale will be reviewed closely in Massachusetts, where policymakers are looking for a potential leverage point to force Steward to plow the proceeds into its struggling hospitals and to prevent closure of crucial facilities. Already, some elected officials who have repeatedly accused for-profit Steward of prioritizing shareholders over public health are sounding warnings about the sale of the physicians practice.

“After years of gross profi-

teering and mismanagement, Steward’s latest plan raises more serious questions about the future of the Massachusetts health care system,” Senator Elizabeth Warren said in a statement. “My top priority is ensuring Steward’s Massachusetts hospitals remain open. But Steward executives have no credibility, and I am concerned that this sale will not benefit patients or health care workers, or guarantee the survival of these facilities.”

On Tuesday, a subsidiary of Optum, called Collaborative Care Holdings, filed notice with the Massachusetts Health Policy Commission over the sale. A price tag was

STEWART, Page A6

## Having no kids doesn’t mean no problems

Those who’ve made choice see good points and bad

By Julian E.J. Sorapuru  
GLOBE STAFF

Jan Marie Olownia felt left behind. She had known since she was 18 that she didn’t want to have children. But by 34, all of her close friends were occupied by the responsibilities of parenting little kids.

“There are friends I used to talk to every day, [now] I talk to them once every multiple months. That’s a really big jump,” Olownia said.

So, in late February, she put out an open call for advice on a social network about how to navigate life as a childfree-by-choice person.

More than 135,000 views and 120 comments later, Olownia knows she isn’t alone.

Even as American millennials are more often childless than any previous generation, people in their 30s and 40s who choose to take the child-free path must navigate a road less traveled.

In interviews, nearly 20 locals said opting out of parenthood allows them to have more time for interests outside of family, live with greater spon-

NO KIDS, Page A6



JOSE LUIS MAGANA/ASSOCIATED PRESS

## Danks a lot

**Wednesday:** Sprinkles, warmer.  
High 51-56. Low 45-50.

**Thursday:** More rain.  
High 49-54. Low 40-45.

Sunrise: 6:35 Sunset: 7:05

**Weather, G7. Obituaries, C10.**



**Israel continued to bombard the Gaza Strip** despite the UN resolution calling for a cease-fire. **A3.**

**Struggling WBUR is offering buyouts to employees** in an effort to cut roughly 10 percent of its budget. **B1.**

**Many schools across Boston braced for substantial cuts** as the School Committee prepared to vote on a budget proposal. **B1.**

**Two firefighters were remembered** a decade after they were killed fighting a blaze on Beacon Hill. **B1.**

**What’s new and what’s great in the world of pizza?** We visited more than two dozen local businesses to find out. **G1.**



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