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Mass. lacked will, savvy to stem Steward's fiscal foibles

Regulators handcuffed by lack of tools, foresight as hospitals faltered

By Jessica Bartlett
GLOBE STAFF

When Steward Health Care first came to Massachusetts in 2010, it was cast as something of a savior. It offered to buy and revive a chain of Catholic community hospitals that were vital to the health care system but failing fast under the weight of aging facilities and a crushing pension burden.

And Steward's plan was to make money doing so. The company's private-equity, for-profit model was a novelty that no one quite knew how to regulate.

They still don't. The state would never figure out how to contend with — much less rein in — a venture like Steward, and in that lies half the story of how the chain could go unchecked from the early days of hope and promise to the financial disaster looming today.

The other half is all about Steward, its repeated failure to live up to promises made to the state: closing hospitals and units it said would stay open, stubbornly refusing to provide financial records

STEWARD, Page A10

For Trump, a mixed day in courtrooms

An appeals court reduced the bond he needs to secure for one judgment to \$175 million; a judge rejects his bid to delay trial over hush money payments. **A2.**

Governor to curb family stays at overflow shelters

They'll have to reapply, show efforts to find work

By Matt Stout
GLOBE STAFF

State officials plan to impose a 30-day limit on homeless and migrant families living in state-run overflow shelters by requiring them to reapply monthly and show they are also seeking work authorization or new housing to stay in the rapidly expanding program.

The new mandate, which Governor Maura Healey's office said Monday will take effect May 1, is just one in a series of efforts to add limits to an overwhelmed system. Legislative leaders also are pursuing a proposal to cap how long families can stay in the state's emergency shelter program, and state officials last year began limiting the number of families the state can house in hotels, motels, and other shelters.

Healey told reporters at the State House that circumstances require changes.

SHELTERS, Page A7



AFF VIA GETTY IMAGES

A girl held a white flag as a displaced Palestinian family walked in Gaza City on Monday.

UN demands cease-fire in Gaza

Netanyahu denounces US, cancels delegation

By Farnaz Fassihi and Aaron Boxerman
NEW YORK TIMES

The UN Security Council on Monday demanded an immediate cease-fire in the Gaza Strip during the remaining weeks of Ramadan, breaking a five-month impasse during which the United States vetoed three calls for a halt to the fighting.

The resolution passed with 14 votes in fa-

vor and the United States abstaining, which US officials said they did in part because the resolution did not condemn Hamas. In addition to a cease-fire, the resolution also called for the "immediate and unconditional release of all hostages" and the lifting of "all barriers to the provision of humanitarian assistance."

Israel, angered that the United States declined to veto the measure, canceled a visit to Washington by a high-level delegation in the strongest public clash between the allies since the war began.

President Biden had requested those

meetings to discuss alternatives to a planned Israeli offensive into Rafah, the city in southern Gaza where more than 1 million people have sought refuge. US officials have said such an operation would create a humanitarian disaster.

Israeli Prime Minister Netanyahu's office called the US abstention from the vote a "clear departure from the consistent US position in the Security Council since the beginning of the war," and said it "harms both the war effort and the effort to release the hostages."

MIDEAST, Page A5

Pickets go up, classwork slows down at BU

Graduate students strike as bid for first contract stalls

By Dana Gerber
GLOBE STAFF
and Esha Walia
GLOBE CORRESPONDENT

About 3,000 graduate student workers at Boston University went on strike Monday, fighting for improved pay and benefits in a labor action that students said resulted in myriad disruptions to classes and other academic work at Boston's largest higher-education institution.

A crowd of hundreds, including workers, undergraduate students, and supporters such as Senator Elizabeth Warren and Representative Ayanna Pressley, gathered for a noon rally launching the work stoppage. Monday's blustery weather didn't deter the demonstrators, who toted signs bedecked with terriers, the



JESSICA RINALDI/GLOBE STAFF

Niki Thomas, a graduate student at Northeastern University, joined a rally at Boston University in support of her BU colleagues. Details on the strike and what workers are seeking, **D1.**

school's mascot, and slogans including: "We can't teach if we can't eat" and "BU: You get what you pay for."

"It's a really hard choice to go on

strike," said Dave Foley, president of Service Employees International Union Local 509, which represents

BOSTON UNIVERSITY, Page A7

Vertex mulls a move to different site in Seaport

By Catherine Carlock
and Jonathan Saltzman
GLOBE STAFF

When Vertex Pharmaceuticals moved from Cambridge to Boston's Seaport a decade ago, it signaled that what was then a sea of parking lots could be a booming business district, and it galvanized a wave of development.

Now, Vertex may be on the move again.

With the lease on its two-building campus on Fan Pier set to expire in 2028, the company is reevaluating its real estate options — and considering leaving its prominent headquarters for another spot in the neighborhood.

In recent months, six people who work in the real estate industry told The Boston Globe, Vertex officials have toured a number of lab development sites in the Seaport, looking for a possible replacement for its 1.1 million-square-foot headquarters. The company is particularly eyeing sites in the Raymond L. Flynn Marine Park, toward the outer

VERTEX, Page A10

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The number of abortions using pills obtained outside the formal health system soared in the six months after the national right to abortion was overturned, according to a report released a day before the Supreme Court hears arguments on limitations on the abortion pill mifepristone. **A2.**

Russian President Vladimir Putin declared that "radical Islamists" carried out the brutal attack on a concert hall, but he repeated his accusation that Ukraine could have played a role. **A4.**

The crash that killed a 4-year-old near the Boston Children's

Museum occurred in an area targeted for a pedestrian safety upgrade. **B1.**

College students from around the nation joined with Perkins School for the Blind to develop apps that can help visually impaired people better navigate the world. **D1.**

The wetter forecast

Tuesday: Some rain, windy. High 38-43, low 36-41.

Wednesday: Scattered rain. High 51-56, low 46-51.

Sunrise: 6:36. Sunset: 7:04.

Weather and comics, **D5-6.**
Obituaries, **C9.**

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