The Boston Blobe

Serving our community since 1872

FRIDAY, JUNE 14, 2024

High court maintains access to abortion pill

Justices unanimous that groups challenging FDA's approval of mifepristone lack a stake

> By Abbie VanSickle NEW YORK TIMES

WASHINGTON — The Supreme Court on Thursday maintained access to a widely available abortion pill, rejecting a bid from a group of antiabortion organizations and doctors to undo the Food and Drug Administration's

approval of the drug.

In a unanimous decision, written by Justice Brett Kavanaugh, the court held that the antiabortion groups lacked a direct stake in the dispute, a requirement to challenge the FDA's approval of the pill, mifepristone.

"The plaintiffs do not prescribe or

use mifepristone," Kavanaugh wrote. "And FDA is not requiring them to do or refrain from doing anything."

He added: "A plaintiff's desire to make a drug less available for others does not establish standing to sue."

The case originally sought to erase the FDA's approval of mifepristone. But by the time it reached the Supreme Court, the question had been narrowed to whether the agency had acted legally in 2016 and 2021, when it broadened cluding telemedicine and mail options.

The ruling handed a muted victory to abortion rights groups. Even as they praised the decision for averting severe restrictions on the availability of the pill, they warned that the outcome could be short-lived.

Antiabortion groups vowed to press ahead, promising that the fight was far from over and raising the possibility that other plaintiffs, states in particu-

distribution of the pill, eventually in- lar, would mount challenges to the drug.

> The ruling did not affect separate restrictions on the pill in more than a dozen states that have passed near-total bans on abortion since the court eliminated a constitutional right to the procedure in Dobbs v. Jackson Women's Health Organization. (The bans do not distinguish between medication and surgical abortion.)

> > **SUPREME COURT, Page A6**

With deed limits, stability at a price

Rules can keep homeowners from building wealth

By Julian E.J. Sorapuru GLOBE STAFF

Danielle Sommer Keita remembers her 11th birthday well.

It was 1993 and, after eight months of renovation, her family moved into their new home in Egleston Square. Her mother had stretched their savings to buy it. They enlisted help through a city affordable housing program and paid only \$90,000 for the four bedroom, 11/2 bathroom home, about half the average price of a single family home in Boston at the time.

Egleston Square has since gentrified, and, in turn, housing costs have boomed. Sommer Keita has seen neighbors cash in and move to homes in cheaper markets. She hopes that her mother can eventually pass on the house to her, so that she can raise her own kids in her childhood home. She's just unsure if she will be able to.

As part of the program that helped her mother buv the house, restrictions were written into the home's deed preventing her from passing it down or selling to anyone who does not meet a certain income restriction. Sommer Keita said her family may not be able to own her mother's home because they make too little money; combined, the household's income is about 60 percent of the area median income, which is roughly \$103,000 a year for her family of six. Most often, deed-restricted housing is reserved for families who make 80 to 100 percent of the area median income, or about \$138,000 to \$172,000 a vear for a household of her size.

"It would be really hard to stay in Boston if we didn't have the security of this house," Sommer Keita said. "It is fundamentally an anchor for us."

This is the push and pull of owning a deed-restricted house. Families are afforded the stability of homeownership in an increasingly expensive neighborhood, but often do not receive all **DEEDS, Page A10**



JESSICA RINALDI/GLOBE STAFF

Kaiden Perez, 9, mimicked the movements of his favorite Celtics as he played with his brother Jaysiah, 6, at Jackson Square court in Roxbury.

For fans of all ages, a title never gets old

Kids who missed 2008 excited to see what it's all about

> **By Maddie Khaw** GLOBE CORRESPONDENT

few hours before 8:30 Wednesday night, while the Celtics were warming up for Game 3 of the NBA Finals in Dallas, Hassan Delaney was putting up shots at a basketball court in the Fenway neighborhood.

One court over from an intense pickup game, Delaney, 13, found a quiet hoop for himself, where he dribbled a ball through his plaid pajama pant-clad legs before tossing up a shot.

"I know they're gonna go 3-0," Delaney said before Boston's win, which gave it a commanding lead in the series

YOUNGER FANS, Page A7



Bill Simmons Jr., a season ticket holder for 51 years, keeps his Kevin Garnett jersey in a prominent spot.

Celtics' domination brings past back for longtime rooters

> By Danny McDonald GLOBE STAFF and Maddie Khaw

GLOBE CORRESPONDENT tephen A. Greyser's Celtics fandom predates the NBA. The start of Bill Russell's legendary tenure was about a decade away, and the universal adoption of the jump shot was still not a reality.

"People were taking set shots off the

top of their head," he said. It was the 1946-1947 season in the Basketball Association of America, the forerunner of the NBA. (The association in 1949 merged with the National Basketball League to create the NBA.)

OLDER FANS, Page A7

Joltin'show

Friday: Thunderstorms. High 79-84. Low 61-66.

Saturday: Pleasant. High 72-77. Low 55-60.

High tide: 5:48 a.m., 6:24 p.m. Sunrise: 5:07 Sunset: 8:22

Weather and Comics, G8-9. **Obituaries, B10.**

For breaking news, updated stories, and more, visit our website:

BostonGlobe.com VOL. 305, NO. 166

> Suggested retail price \$4.00

A young woman who had just graduated from high school in the Seaport was shot by

someone wearing a cap and gown. B1.

A move to legalize recreational marijuana in New **Hampshire** was again rejected, by five votes. **B1.**

A judge approved a loan to fund Steward's operations. B5.

\$338,000 cybertheft magnifies town's woes

Orange faces more layoffs, cuts after fraud

By John Hilliard

ORANGE — The invoices came in last year to this rural town by email, \$800,000 worth, all purportedly for services rendered during a large construction project. Town Hall signed off and paid out \$338,000 before officials realized the worst.

They'd been had.

For a town that is one of the state's poorest communities, the theft, combined with a \$2 million shortfall likely to trigger layoffs and cuts starting this summer, has made for a staggering one-two gut

punch.

'We are all feeling this pinch, there are a lot of services being reduced," said Police Chief James Sullivan, who is investigating the fraud. "People out here are hurt-

The fraud against Orange comes amid a spike in cybercrimes, some \$12.5 billion in 2023, a roughly 22 percent increase in losses compared to the previous year, according to the FBI. The agency doesn't keep specific statistics on cities and towns that have been victimized, but municipalities in Massachusetts have been fleeced in a variety



SUZANNE KREITER/GLOBE STAFI

Orange has struggled for years following the departure of much of the manufacturing that fueled growth in the region.

In a scheme revealed in February, Arlington was bilked out of nearly a half-million dollars by in-

ternational hackers impersonating a vendor working to rebuild the community's high school. Else-

SCAM, Page A5