

# The Commercial Review

Portland, Indiana 47371

www.thecr.com

\$1

## SHAPE star

### Fugiett earned national honor

By BAILEY CLINE  
The Commercial Review

Passion. Leadership. Servitude. These are all traits Jay County High School Class of 2021 graduate Sophia Fugiett has demonstrated time and time again.

Now she's being recognized for her dedication nationally.

The Society of Health and Physical Educators America recently named Fugiett as one of the Major of the Year award winners.

"I can't even comprehend what that is or what that means," said Fugiett, noting she'd heard the news about a week prior to an interview Jan. 17. "That's just crazy for me to wrap my head around. It's such an honor."

In November, Fugiett was recognized as the Indiana SHAPE Outstanding Student of 2023 at the organization's conference in Indianapolis. The award, given to one Indiana student annually, recognizes undergraduate students who have "displayed distinctive leadership and meritorious service to his/her profession of health, physical education, recreation, dance, and/or allied areas," according to Indiana SHAPE's website.

Likewise, SHAPE America's Major of the Year award "celebrates outstanding undergraduate students in the fields of health, physical education, recreation and dance." It's given to a select number of students across the nation each year.

Fugiett's professor, Andrea McMurtry, submitted an application to the national organization advocating for her.

"She is an amazing student, an amazing future teacher, she truly cares about children, she cares about her peers at Ball State and I think she would do absolutely anything for anyone that would need it," said McMurtry, Ball State University's undergraduate coordinator for physical education and health teacher education program who also won a leadership award at the state conference.

See SHAPE page 5



Photo provided

Sophia Fugiett, a 2021 Jay County High School graduate and the 2022 Miss Jay County fair queen, has been recognized by the Society of Health and Physical Educators America as one of the Major of the Year award winners. Pictured above at the Indiana SHAPE conference in November, Fugiett will travel to Cleveland, Ohio, in March to accept the award and meet with other professionals in her field.

## Alcohol carry-out measure passes Senate

Holdman bill would exempt specialty, gourmet markets

By RAY COONEY  
The News Times

INDIANAPOLIS — A bill from a local legislator regarding the sale of carry-out alcoholic beverages has passed the state senate.

State Sen. Travis Holdman's Senate Bill 58, which would exempt specified establishments from certain requirements for the sale of carry-out alcoholic beverages, passed 42-7 Monday.

It now moves to the House, where it will be sponsored by State Reps. Ethan Manning (R-Logansport), Doug Miller (R-Elkhart) and Phil GiaQuinta (D-Fort Wayne).

The bill from Holdman, who represents Jay, Adams, Wells and Blackford counties and part of Allen County, would exempt specialty or gourmet markets with a restaurant permit from income requirements to sell carry-out alcohol. It does so by exempting such businesses from rules regarding their percentage of gross retail income that comes from the sale of alcoholic beverages.

It defines a specialty or gourmet market as one that holds a beer retailer's permit and wine retailer's permit, sells miscellaneous specialty foods and does not sell automotive fuel.

There was virtually no discussion of the bill on the Senate floor Monday, with the exception of praising Holdman for authoring an alcohol-related bill for the first time in his 16 years in office. He had previously joked about the milestone when introducing the bill in front of the Senate Committee on Public Policy. He noted then that he brought the bill at the request of Antonuccio's Italian Market of Fort Wayne, which is now located in his district.

"This is a good bill," said Sen. Ron Alting (R-Lafayette). "We congratulate you senator."

## Farm land bill passes House

By CASEY SMITH  
Indiana Capital Chronicle  
indianacapitalchronicle.com

A bill to limit who can buy agricultural land in Indiana advanced Monday with bipartisan support.

House Bill 1183, authored by Rep. Kendell Culp, R-Rensselaer, would prohibit purchasers from "adversarial countries" from owning or leasing Hoosier farmland.

A list of those countries is kept by the U.S. Department of Commerce and currently includes six nations: Russia, China, North Korea, Iran, Cuba and Venezuela.

The proposal builds on a previous measure passed in the 2022 session, which limited foreign entities from buying more than 320 acres in Indiana for crop farming or timber production, among other restrictions.

"This is not just an agricul-

ACLU of Indiana pushed back, saying it is a form of discrimination

tural issue, this is a food security issue, and we cannot afford to lose control of even a fraction of our food supply — because if we do, then it becomes a national security issue," Culp said, adding that legislative surveys showed 91% of the respondents in his district were opposed to adversarial countries owning Indiana farmland.

The new bill advanced 11-0 from the House agriculture committee and now heads to the full chamber.

Indiana is among 24 states

that have adopted some sort of prohibition against foreign ownership of land.

Existing state law limits how much agricultural land can be acquired by foreign businesses, and specifically states that Russian citizens or business entities cannot hold or convey real property within Indiana.

Culp's bill expands on those conditions, permitting an adversarial beneficiary to have no more than 5% ownership in a parcel of Indiana farmland.

See Farm page 2



The Commercial Review/Bailey Cline

## PJs and plushies

Elizabeth Grady and her daughter Athena Grady, 2, decorate a cardboard "bed" for a stuffed unicorn during Jay County Public Library's PJs, Toys and Stories event Tuesday morning. Participants decorated cardboard boxes and sheets — "beds and pillowcases" — as well as friendship bracelets for their stuffed animals or dolls to spend a night at the library.

### Deaths

Ruby Young, 96, Fort Recovery  
Marvin Eicher, 8, rural Bryant  
Daniel Knipp, 68, Portland  
Troy Carter, 52, Montpelier  
Details on page 2.

### Weather

The temperature in Jay County hovered between 32 and 36 degrees Monday. Tonight's low will be in the lower 30s with winds gusting to 25 miles per hour. Expect mostly sunny skies Thursday with a high in the upper 40s and continued windy conditions. See page 2 for an extended outlook.

### In review

Several new candidates have filed to run for precinct committeeman. Republicans Jeff Hopkins (Wayne 7), Kerry Muhlenkamp (Bearcreek) and Zach Chenoweth (Noble) are all seeking office. Filing for the 2024 election cycle continues through noon Feb. 9 in the clerk's office at Jay County Courthouse.

### Coming up

Thursday — Results from the JCHS girls basketball sectional opener.

Saturday — Coverage of this week's Portland Board of Works meeting.



# Obituaries

## Ruby Young

May 26, 1927-Jan. 28, 2024  
Ruby J. Young, 96, of Fort Recovery, Ohio, passed away on Sunday, Jan. 28, 2024, at the Gardens at St. Henry.

She was born on May 26, 1927, in Rossburg, Ohio, to the late John and Lillie (Bedinger) Anthony.

In addition to her parents, Ruby was preceded in death by her husband, Webber M. Young, whom she married on Nov. 20, 1943, and who passed away on Oct. 19, 1984; her children, Car-

olyn Young, Web Young Jr. and Kenneth Young; and her siblings, Alva Anthony, Paul Anthony Jr., Roy Anthony, Bernice Young and Dorothy Young.

Ruby is survived by her daughters, Shirley Young of Coldwater and Linda Young of St. Henry, Ohio; and close friends, Keith and Sandy Imel of Fort Recovery.

Ruby worked for Fort Recovery Industries until she retired.



Young

She was a member of the Fort Recovery Church of the Nazarene. In her free time, Ruby enjoyed being with her family.

A celebration of Ruby's life will be held at 1 p.m. on Thursday, Feb. 1, 2024, at the Fort Recovery Church of the Nazarene, with Pastor Brad Ratliff officiating. Burial will follow in Teegarden Cemetery, Ansonia, Ohio.

Guests may visit with Ruby's family on Thursday from 11 a.m. until the start of the service at 1 p.m. at the church.

Memorial contributions may be given to the Fort Recovery Church of the Nazarene, P.O. Box 336, Fort Recovery, OH 45846.

Condolences may be shared with the family by visiting [brockmanboeckmanfh.com](http://brockmanboeckmanfh.com).

**Marvin D. Eicher**, rural Bryant, Nov. 7, 2015-Jan. 28, 2024. Services were held at 9 a.m. today at the David MK Eicher residence.

**Daniel Knipp**, Portland, Oct. 5, 1955-Jan. 19, 2024. No services are scheduled at this time.

**Troy Dale Carter**, Montpelier,

March 24, 1971-Jan. 26, 2024. Services will be held at 2 p.m. Thursday at Walker & Glancy Funeral Home, 109 W. Windsor St., Montpelier.

.....  
*The Commercial Review publishes death notices for those with a connection to our coverage area free of charge. They include the name, city of residence, birth/death date and time/date/location of services.*

*There is a charge for obituaries, which are accepted only from funeral homes or mortuary services.*

## CR almanac

Thursday 2/1	Friday 2/2	Saturday 2/3	Sunday 2/4	Monday 2/5
<b>48/33</b>	<b>45/30</b>	<b>48/30</b>	<b>49/30</b>	<b>46/28</b>
Thursday looks to be mostly sunny. Wind gusts may reach as high as 20 mph.	Mostly sunny skies are expected Friday. At night, the low may dip to 30 degrees.	Sunny skies are expected on Saturday, when the high will reach the upper 40s.	Another day of mostly sunny skies is in the forecast for Sunday, when the high will be 49.	Mostly sunny skies on Monday, when the high will be around 46 degrees.

## Lotteries

**Powerball**  
Monday  
39-41-43-49-64  
Power Ball: 4  
Power Play: 2  
Estimated jackpot: \$188 million

**Mega Millions**  
Estimated jackpot: \$311 million

**Hoosier**  
Monday  
Midday  
Daily Three: 8-8-4  
Daily Four: 0-3-8-4  
Quick Draw: 12-13-15-16-17-19-22-39-40-50-51-55-58-60-62-67-69-73-74-78  
Evening  
Daily Three: 2-1-8

**Daily Four:** 1-2-9-7  
**Quick Draw:** 2-3-7-9-14-15-16-20-21-23-25-30-39-54-63-66-70-71-73-76  
**Cash 5:** 3-25-33-40-45  
Estimated jackpot: \$240,500

**Ohio**  
Monday  
Midday  
Pick 3: 6-0-9  
Pick 4: 7-8-6-9  
Pick 5: 0-9-9-4-9  
Evening  
Pick 3: 9-9-9  
Pick 4: 9-5-5-1  
Pick 5: 7-1-0-6-2  
Rolling Cash: 9-15-17-24-35  
Estimated jackpot: \$120,000

## Markets

**Cooper Farms Fort Recovery**  
Corn.....4.50  
Feb. corn.....4.50  
Wheat.....5.20

**POET Biorefining Portland**  
Corn.....4.51  
Feb. corn.....4.46  
March corn.....4.46

**The Andersons Richland Township**  
Corn.....4.36  
Feb. corn.....4.31  
Beans.....11.88

Feb. beans.....11.98  
Wheat.....5.61

**ADM Montpelier**  
Corn.....4.31  
Feb. corn.....4.31  
Beans.....11.99  
Feb. beans.....11.99  
Wheat.....5.58

**Heartland St. Anthony**  
Corn.....4.41  
Feb. corn.....4.44  
Beans.....11.74  
Feb. beans.....11.74  
Wheat.....5.20

## Today in history

In 1606, Guy Fawkes, who was one of the Gunpowder Plot conspirators who tried to blow up Parliament and assassinate King James I, was executed in London.

In 1797, Franz Schubert was born in Himmelpfortgrund, near Vienna, Austria. A composer known for works including "Ave Maria" and "Das Wandern," he bridged the Classic and Romantic music genres.

In 1848, Major John C. Fremont was court-martialed for mutiny and disobeying orders. The charges came after a dispute arose over who had governing authority in California.

In 1919, Jackie Robinson was born in Cairo, Georgia. Robinson became the first Black player to play in Major League Baseball when he took the field for the Brooklyn Dodgers on April 15, 1947.

In 1943, German Field Marshal Friedrich Paulus surrendered to the army of the Soviet Union in Stalingrad.

In 2006, the Fort Recovery seventh grade girls basketball team went to four overtimes in its 45-43 victory over St. John's. Kendra Brunswick scored 14 points to lead the Tribe in the marathon win over the Blue Jays.

In 2022, Jay School Board announced it was receiving a total of \$100,000 in grant funding to implement new science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) curriculum at East Jay, East, Westlawn, Redkey and Bloomfield elementary schools. —The CR

## Citizen's calendar

**Today**  
6 p.m. — Pennville Town Council executive session, town hall, 105 N. Washington St.

**Thursday**  
4 p.m. — Portland Board of Works,

mayor's office, city hall, 321 N. Meridian St.

**Friday**  
5 p.m. — Jay County Commissioners and Jay County Council joint session, auditorium, courthouse, 120 N. Court St., Portland.



Photo provided

## Annual visit

Jay County Soil and Water Conservation District officials visited the Indiana Statehouse this month for their annual conference meeting with legislators. Pictured, from left are conservation district supervisor Betty Drinkut, State Rep. J.D. Prescott (R-Union City), conservation district supervisor Barry Miller, Randolph County Soil and Water Conservation District director Stacey White and Jay County Soil and Water Conservation District director Taylor Suman.

## Farm ...

Continued from page 1  
Those from adversarial countries are also prohibited from purchasing or leasing water rights, mineral rights or riparian rights. Under the measure, when agricultural land is bought, the purchaser will be required to sign an affidavit at the closing of the real estate transaction, verifying they do not qualify as an adversary. The bill additionally creates a mechanism for the Indiana Attorney General to investigate a sale or lease agreement of agricultural land if the transaction is believed to be a vio-

lation of law. If the transaction is found to be unlawful, the land in question could be forfeited to the state. Exceptions are carved out for land without agricultural activity in the last five years, as well as land not officially recognized by the United States Department of Agriculture's (USDA) Farm Service Agency as farmland. If passed, Culp's bill would take effect July 1. It grandfathers all current and past land transactions, however.

At present, 2.2% of Indiana's nearly 15 million acres of farmland is owned or leased by a foreign entity, of which nearly 80% is cropland, according to a 2021 report from the USDA. The county with the largest amount of foreign-owned or leased farmland White County.

Culp emphasized that while Canada is by far the largest foreign owner of farmland in the United States, Chinese interests — and the amount of nationwide acreage acquired — "is growing at an alarming rate."

For that reason, multiple Hoosier farmers testified in support of the bill. Culp said large agricultural lobbying groups — including the Indiana Farm Bureau, Indiana Soybean Alliance and Indiana Corn Growers Association — also back the legislation.

"(Our members) take great pride in being part of the agricultural fabric here in the state and raising some of the most affordable, safest food on the planet," said Andy Tauer, director of public policy for Indiana Farm Bureau. See Farm page 5

## SERVICES

**Today**  
**Eicher**, Marvin: 9 a.m., David MK Eicher residence, 040 E. 800 North, Bryant.  
**Herriford**, Declan: 2 p.m., Williamson-Spencer and Penrod Funeral Home, 208 N. Commerce St., Portland.

**Thursday**  
**Kable**, Jeremy: 11 a.m., Williamson-Spencer and Penrod Funeral Home, 208 N. Commerce St., Portland.  
**Young**, Ruby: 1 p.m., Fort Recovery Church of the Nazarene, 401 E. Boundary St., Fort Recovery.  
**Carter**, Troy: 2 p.m., Walker & Glancy Funeral Home, 109 W. Windsor St., Montpelier.

Service listings provided by  
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*The Family of Gary Street*

*We wish to thank everyone for the cards, flowers, memorials, and prayers in the loss of our husband, father and brother, Gary Street. We are grateful to those who provided food for our family and friends, along with the services of Pastor Steve Arnold, Rob Penrod, American Legion Post # 211, Honor Guard, and Kelly Smeltzer.*

*Our thanks to Jay County EMS, Dr. Frank Vormohr, Jay County Cancer Society and the staff at the Jay County Infusion Center.*

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Photo provided

## Character counts

East Elementary recognized students for displaying fairness Friday. Pictured above are (front) second graders Brettlynn Barnett, Jairo Garcia and Saki Hirae, and (back) Landon Scott, Allison Spahr, Whitney Schwieterman and Remington Humphrey.

# Wife can't accept husband's past

Dear Abby



DEAR ABBY: After 17 years of marriage, I learned, to my dismay, that when he was 22, my husband had a long-term relationship with a 16-year-old. He insisted that she had lied about her age and told him she was 20.

But even after finding out her true age, he went back to her. Her mother was OK with it, as well as other family members who all knew she was underage. It makes me sick to my stomach. They engaged in sexual activity when she was underage. They were even engaged until she allegedly cheated.

I'm livid because he tried to say he TOLD me she was underage, but he never did. I would never have dated or married someone who knowingly had sex with an underaged individual. I've been questioning a lot about this marriage, but this sent me over the top. Am I overreacting because he "was young and dumb" and "did something stupid and never did it again," as he puts it? — CAN'T GET OVER IT

DEAR CAN'T: The most important line in your letter as far as I am concerned is this one: "I've been questioning a lot about this marriage." The first item on your agenda should be to make an appointment with a licensed marriage and family therapist so you and your husband can start working on what's wrong with your relationship.

His feelings for that girl were sincere. He would have married her had she not cheated on him. If he has been a faithful and caring husband since your marriage, it's time to forgive him for his youthful indiscretion, which was encouraged by the girl's family.

DEAR ABBY: My son and daughter-in-law are in their early 30s. They have a 5-year-old child who hasn't seen a doctor since infancy. They opted not to vaccinate. Although my husband and I do not agree with it, we keep our mouths shut.

Our precious granddaughter has been sick with a severe cough and fever on and off for close to two months. Although they have health insurance, they refuse to take her to a doctor. They treat her with over-the-counter meds and holistic remedies.

I finally told my daughter-in-law I felt it was negligence to not take the child to a pediatrician. The other grandmother feels the same way I do. Now I'm being "canceled" for finally expressing how I feel. I am disconsolate with the thought that they would actually do that to me. I did apologize for my choice of words and the way I said them.

What else can I do to make things right again? My son is no help. He doesn't go against his wife for any reason. — HEART-BROKEN NANA IN FLORIDA

DEAR NANA: If I read your letter correctly, you stated that your grandchild has had no vaccinations. Nothing to prevent whooping cough, diphtheria, measles, chickenpox or polio. To me, that describes GROSS negligence. Because your henpecked son refuses to step in, you may have to accept there is nothing you or the other grandmother can do to "make things right again." But the two of you COULD contact child protective services and ask if they agree that what's happening is negligence.

Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Contact Dear Abby at DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

# Concert turned out different

By JULIA DAYE  
The Charlotte Observer  
Tribune News Service

Besides his bluesy acoustics and ear-hooking guitar licks, John Mayer is also known by fans for doing pop-up concerts.

At least, that's what Bozeman, Montana, locals thought when they saw an announcement on social media that the singer would be performing at Cooper Park.

"I saw (it) on 'The Real Ask Bozeman' Facebook page and thought that I had the exclusive thing," Shawn Graves told KBZK.

It was called the "Pray For Snow Wonderland Show," and

people were excited. It was a gloriously sunny day on Thursday so an outdoor concert with a Grammy Award-winning performer was extra appealing.

That afternoon, Graves and well over 100 other locals gathered at Cooper Park. Die-hard fans brought guitars for Mayer to sign.

They waited 30 minutes. Then an hour. The crowd kept growing.

No John Mayer.

"We joked that someone must have been doing a psych experiment," a local wrote in a Reddit thread.

Then, the scene turned into something out of a movie. Once it became clear that the star wasn't coming, some of the locals who brought guitars jumped on stage and started performing John Mayer songs for the crowd.

"Major props to those who chose to entertain," said another local who wrote appreciatively about the unusual afternoon on Reddit.

"Great prank. Resulted in a nice day in the park, live music and community bonding."

"I think it's at the very least a nice little community gathering, people get to say hi to each other," Graves told KBZK.

# Community Calendar

Notices will appear in Community Calendar as space is available. To submit an item, email news@thecr.com.

### Today

WEDNESDAY MORNING BREAKFAST CLUB — Will meet at 8 a.m. in the east room of Richards Restaurant. All women are invited to attend. Includes activities and devotional time.

PING PONG — Will be played from 11 a.m. to noon on Wednesdays at West Jay Community Center.

PORTLAND ROTARY CLUB — Will meet at noon each Wednesday in the cafe at John Jay Center for Learning, 101 S. Meridian St., Portland.

AL-ANON FAMILY GROUP — New Beginnings, a support group for friends and families of alcoholics, will meet at 6:30 p.m. each Wednesday in the Zion Lutheran Church, 218 E. High St., Portland. For more information, call (260) 726-8229.

A BETTER LIFE - BRIANNA'S HOPE — A faith-based recovery group for all kinds of addictions, will meet from 6:30 to 8 p.m. each Wednesday at Redkey United Methodist Church, 122 W. Main St. For more information, call Pastor Randy Davis at (765) 369-2085.

Thursday CELEBRATE RECOVERY — A 12-step Christian

recovery program meets at 10 a.m. and 6:30 p.m. each Thursday at A Second Chance At Life Ministries, 228 S. Meridian St. in Portland. For more information, call Brenda Eads at (260) 726-9625 or Dave Keen at (260) 251-8792.

PORTLAND LIONS CLUB — Will meet the first Thursday of the month at Portland Lions Civic Center, 307 W. 100 North. The meal will be served at 6:30 p.m. and the meeting will begin at 7 p.m.

FORGET-ME-NOT — A support group for parents, friends and relatives who have lost a baby through miscarriage, birth or illness will meet from 7 to 9 p.m. at St. Vincent Randolph Hospital, Winchester, in community room 1. For more information, call Kimberly Sibery at (765) 964-6075 or Nikki Bosworth at (765) 584-6452.

Friday PAST RECOVERY SERVICES — Peer Addiction Support Team recovery support group meets at 10 a.m. and 5 p.m. each Friday at the Jay County Drug Prevention Coalition office at 100 N. Meridian St., Portland. For more information, call (260) 251-3259.

SOFT SHOULDERS — A support group for anyone suffering from memory loss, will meet at 10:30 a.m. the first Friday of each month in the Fireplace Room at Edelweiss Place at Swiss Village in Berne. For more information, call (260) 589-3173.

DUNKIRK HISTORICAL SOCIETY — Is open from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. on the first and third Friday of each month in the former W.E. Gaunt Jewelry building, 113 S. Main St., Dunkirk.

Saturday ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS — Will meet at 10 a.m. at Zion Evangelical Lutheran Church, 218 E. High St., Portland. For more information, call (260) 251-3336 or (260) 729-7000.

## Sudoku

9				5	7	4	6
7							2
		5		4	6		
		1	6	7			3
	8			3		2	9
							5
3				1	2		7
			8		9		
							1

Level: Intermediate

### Tuesday's Solution

7	9	5	6	1	4	2	8	3
1	3	4	2	9	8	6	5	7
2	8	6	7	3	5	4	9	1
8	2	3	1	5	9	7	4	6
6	4	9	8	7	3	1	2	5
5	1	7	4	2	6	8	3	9
4	5	8	3	6	7	9	1	2
3	6	2	9	4	1	5	7	8
9	7	1	5	8	2	3	6	4

The objective is to fill a nine-by-nine grid so that each column, each row, and each of the nine three-by-three boxes (also called blocks or regions) contains the digits from 1 to 9 only one time each.

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# Birthday pup was a gift for family

*Editor's note: This column is being reprinted from Jan. 28, 2009. The days and weeks after losing a beloved pet are heart-wrenching. What's important is that we remember all the joy they brought to our lives.*

By JACK RONALD  
The Commercial Review

Shadow became a member of our family as a present for our daughter Sally on her seventh birthday.

She was just a pup when I brought her home from John and Janice Fisher's that July afternoon.

Her name came naturally. A black Labrador, she easily disappeared into the shadows; and she shadowed Sally everywhere.

From the beginning, she had a mind of her own. She'd recognize her name when you called her, but she'd only come to you if she

## Back in the Saddle



wanted to. She much preferred to run free, and as a puppy she was skillful at slipping out the back door and taking off for a sprint around the neighborhood.

One memorable winter night, she slipped out and started running laps around our garage, with me in pursuit through the snow. I finally caught her with a flying tackle into a snowdrift.

Usually the best way to get her back on a leash was to open a car door and suggest going for a ride. Inevitably, she'd be intrigued by the idea and bound into the car.

She attended obedience classes, but I think it's safe to say her grades were below average. She had a mind of her own, and obedience wasn't big on her agenda.

When she was a puppy, we did our best to limit her access to various rooms of the house. At first, she could only be in the kitchen. And at night, she slept on a dog bed in that room.

But when we went to Moldova 11 years ago, all that changed. While we were gone, she stayed with my uncle Stu and aunt Martha Sue at their place out in the country. She roamed so freely — once disappearing for a day — that there was no way she would surrender her freedom when we returned. From then on, every inch of the house was hers.

She was a friendly dog. A walk around the block might bring encounters with Katie or Freckles or Candy or Elsie Mae or Zeus

or Gabby. (There have been a lot of dogs in our neighborhood over the years.)

She was a kid magnet and loved seeing Laci and Matthew and Jelica and Paco. Kids she'd never seen before felt comfortable giving her a scratch behind the ears.

She had friends of all ages, routinely stopping at a Jay-Randolph Developmental Center group home on our walks to visit with Jerry and the rest of the gang on the porch.

She was patient with all of them and with all of us. The craziness of Christmas, with a houseful of family, comings and goings at all hours, and clouds of wrapping paper, didn't faze her a bit.

And if she sometimes didn't know exactly what was going on, she could always seem to sense when something was in the wind. She'd anticipate Sally's return

visits home from Bloomington; she'd know instinctively when Sally was getting ready to leave.

Inevitably, over the past six months or so, she began to slow down.

The seven-year-old who fell in love with her as a birthday present is now a grad student. Fifteen and a half years have passed since Shadow became a member of our family.

Last Thursday at Dr. Bader's office, we said goodbye to her. She hadn't been able to keep down solid food for three days. Her rear legs had stopped functioning entirely. One of her front legs was showing signs of atrophy. When Dr. Bader examined her, he found a mass growing in her abdomen that was the size of a softball. It was tough to say goodbye, but it was the right decision.

Knowing her was a gift. And we are richer for it.

## Shield law would serve public interest

The Virginian-Pilot  
Tribune News Service

The U.S. House has passed a federal shield law for journalists.

Protecting members of the media from legal interloping into their sources and communications is essential to a free press, and the House should be commended for its action. Now the Senate should follow suit in passing this essential legislation.

Though the Founding Fathers enshrined press freedom in the First Amendment, only a decade passed before Congress passed the Alien and Sedition Acts to limit speech critical of the government, including by journalists. American history is rife with instances of media speaking truth to power — and power lashing out in response.

Journalism — and, in turn, the public's understanding of their communities — depends on the free and open exchange of facts. Some of the most compelling and important stories hinge on unsavory characters, illegal activities or earnest citizens who may face punishment for speaking to the media.

To write a story about fantanyl use, for instance, might find a reporter speaking to drug users and dealers. Stories about abortion may now put journalists in touch with those violating the law. Write about corruption in government and many sources will only speak if assured of anonymity.

It's critical, then, that journalists be protected from prosecution for their work and, broadly, should not be compelled to disclose sources or sensitive information. The Supreme Court agreed in 1972 when, in *Branzburg v. Hayes*, the justices decided that a reporter for *The Courier-Journal* in Louisville, Kentucky, couldn't be compelled by a grand jury to reveal two sources for an article about illegal drug use.

That precedent has been bolstered by subsequent court decisions and formed the basis for the first state shield laws, formally extending qualified privilege to members of the working media.

## Guest Editorial

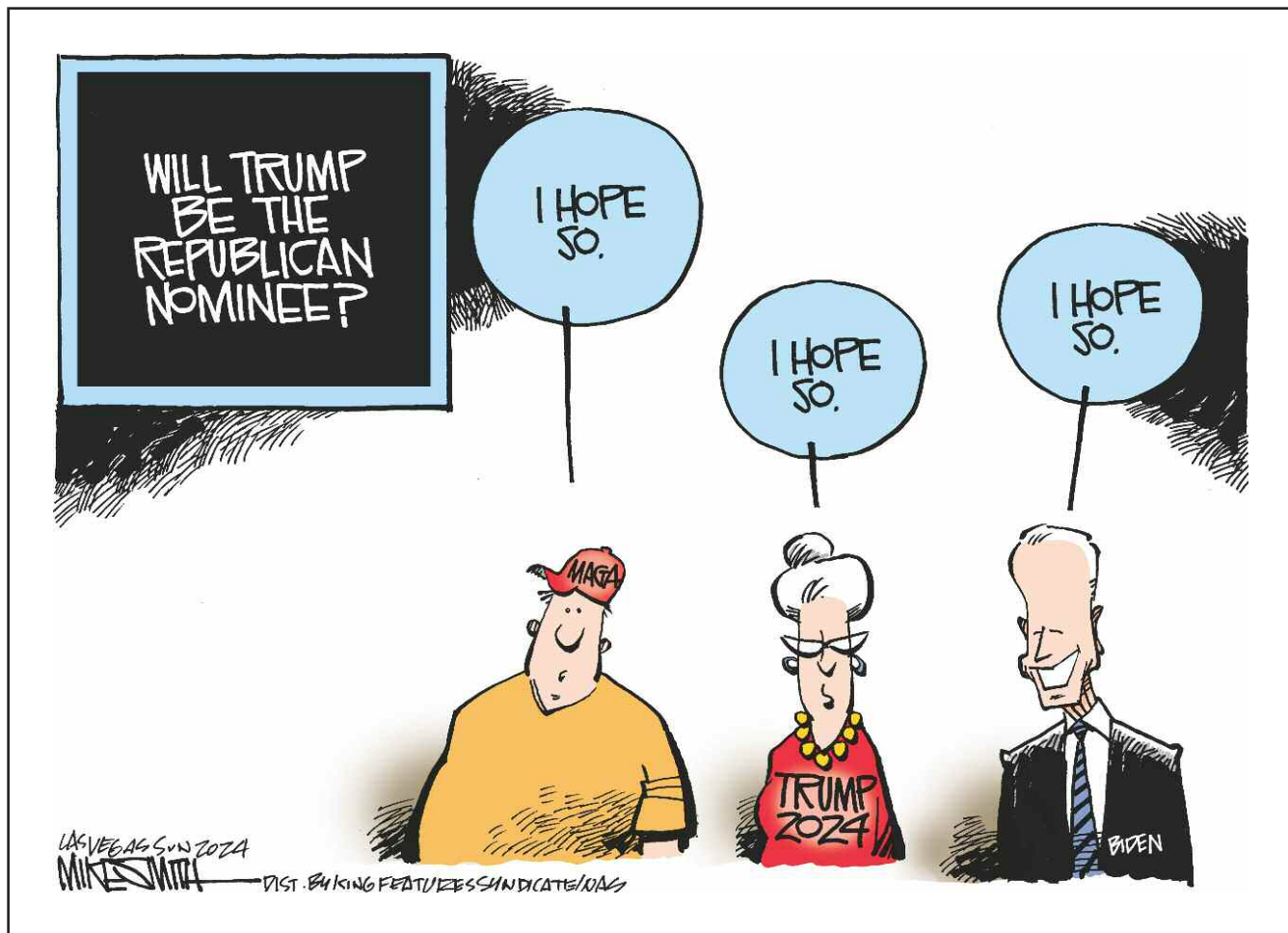
*Journalism — and, in turn, the public's understanding of their communities — depends on the free and open exchange of facts.*

Though the House has passed versions on several occasions, the Senate has not, owing to concerns about reporting on national security issues. Some fear that shield laws could make disclosures, such as those by Edward Snowden or Reality Winner, more difficult to prosecute and encourage further revelations that run counter to the nation's interests.

But here, again, is a chance to see this important work done. The House passed the PRESS Act on Jan. 20 and it includes robust protection for media but also exemptions in cases sensitive information could thwart terrorism or prevent violence.

The Senate companion bill, sponsored by odd bipartisan bedfellows Ron Wyden, D-Oregon; Mike Lee, R-Utah; and Richard Durbin, D-Illinois, is expected to be considered soon.

Congress took up the ball and is running with it. Constituents should encourage their senators to support this bill and help ensure that a free press thrives in the commonwealth and across the nation.



## Let's not repeat mistakes

By JOHN SILVA  
The Fulcrum  
Tribune News Service

In the weeks following the 2020 presidential election, many of us watched from the sidelines as misinformation from political figures, social media feeds, podcasts and pundits stoked anger and suspicion that someone had tampered with ballots and voting machines. These false beliefs about a "stolen election" took root, spread and grew into a movement that led to the Jan. 6, 2021, insurrection at the Capitol. Despite overwhelming, verifiable evidence to the contrary, those beliefs persist today.

With another presidential contest likely featuring the same two candidates, it's hardly surprising that election rumors and misinformation already are spreading, with former President Donald Trump urging crowds to "guard the vote" at polling places in Philadelphia, Detroit and Atlanta.

Ahead of the elections and during National News Literacy Week, we can each take important steps to ensure our emotions and beliefs are not being manipulated by misinformation. If we are aware of and practice news literacy skills, we can ensure our information is credible and comes from reputable sources. By doing so, we can take action to avoid a repeat of Jan. 6.

News literacy is the ability to identify what information you can trust, share, and act on to become a better-informed and more engaged participant in the civic life of your community and our country. It teaches you how to navigate our challenging and complex information landscape, helping you learn how to think about the information you consume, not what to

John Silva



think about it. News literacy gives you the tools and skills to evaluate the credibility of news and other information and determine the quality and reliability of what you consume. It also explores the processes and standards that journalists follow to report the news as fairly and accurately as possible.

News is meant to inform you; credible, standards-based news does not take a stance on issues. It gives you the who, what, when, where and why and provides that information from multiple, credible sources with an emphasis on fairness and accuracy. Unfortunately, a great deal of information out there might look like news but, instead, is meant to persuade or influence you, such as punditry. Opinion journalism should follow ethical standards, like providing evidence for claims, presenting logical arguments and frequently acknowledging conflicting views. Opinion pieces that cherry-pick data, leave out important context or use logical fallacies are not quality journalism — they are misleading and unfair.

No one wants to be misled. To make sure the news we are getting shows the full story, consider the following:

- Does the story include multiple sources or experts who can provide the relevant details about what took place?
- When possible, are there links to

related reports, studies, data, video or audio that can add context?

•Is the story reported fully, including all key information, and with the proper context to provide a clear understanding?

•Have the details in the story been fact-checked and verified?

•Are multiple sides of the issue reported to ensure fairness without giving undue weight to one side or the other?

•Was the piece reported in a dispassionate manner that avoids bias?

•Is the newsroom transparent about past errors, and does it note corrections on its stories?

All of these are essential factors to consider before acting on information.

Differences of opinion are valuable and essential to the marketplace of ideas (which the Free Speech Center at Middle Tennessee State University says, "refers to the belief that the test of the truth or acceptance of ideas depends on their competition with one another and not on the opinion of a censor.") But truth is supported by facts, and facts are supported by evidence.

Ordinary voters can't control what politicians and pundits say, but we don't have to subject ourselves to another election cycle marred by misinformation meant to confuse and anger us. We can use news literacy skills to find credible information and discern facts from fiction. We can push back on falsehoods and fake claims. With news literacy, we can reclaim our power to determine the truth.

.....  
*Silva is senior director of professional and community learning at the News Literacy Project. He is a former teacher.*

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—Thomas Jefferson*

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# SHAPE ...

Continued from page 1  
Fugiett, the 2022 Miss Jay County Fair Queen, has also been involved in extracurricular programs throughout her college career. She has served as president of Ball State University SHAPE and has been involved with the INSHAPE Young Professionals Board, which aims to reach out to students majoring in physical education and health education.

"She's just always trying to do the right thing, and she does it with a smile and a positive attitude," McMurtry said.

Fugiett also received accolades in the past, including being named as the 2022 INSHAPE Major of the Year.

McMurtry noted Fugiett has been making an impact since she started taking classes at Ball State.

"Most of the students sit back and are very quiet their first year taking it all in," McMurtry said. "She was a natural leader already, making friends and just standing out in the major in a great way."

She spoke highly of Fugiett's abilities as a teacher, saying she's going to "make a difference wherever she goes."

"She wants to be a physical education teacher and a coach, and she has such a passion for what quality physical education actually is," said McMurtry. "A lot of people kind of have a stereotypical belief of what PE is and PE teachers do, you know, but there's so much more to it. She

wants to teach so that she can help students understand and find a passion for fitness. Her role as an athlete, she wants to bring that and the rewards that coaching can bring young people."

Fugiett is in the midst of student teaching and wrapping up her final year at Ball State. (She finished a year of college classes while attending Jay County High School.) Majoring in health and physical education in May, she'll be certified to teach kindergarten through 12th grade physical education courses and fifth through 12th grade health classes.

She expressed an interest to return to Jay School Corporation as an educator.

"I graduated from here, that's kind of where I got my passion from teaching, so coming back and being able to be a teacher here would be a full-circle moment," she said, noting her location will depend on job availability but that her goal is to find a position close to home.

Sophia Fugiett comes from a family of educators, including her mother, Cathy Fugiett, who works as the media specialist for Jay County Junior-Senior High School. She recalls pictures from her childhood of her "teaching" her baby dolls and stuffed animals.

"Teaching has just been in my blood, I always knew I was going to be a teacher," said Fugiett.

Her time as a cross country and track and field athlete in high school, as well as her passion for fit-

ness, helped solidify which kind of teacher she wanted to be.

"I've never looked back since," she said. "I'm very, very passionate about it, and I definitely love it, to be able to motivate students to want to move their bodies and be healthy."

She's looking forward to the March national conference in Cleveland, where she'll be recognized for the achievement. What she's most excited about, though, is collaborating with other educators from across the nation.

"I'll be surrounded by PE teachers and health teachers from all across America, and that will be so inspiring to be able to network with some other people from California, or Florida, to see how, like, what they're doing in their classrooms, in their gyms, to see if I can take any of their ideas for my classroom that I'll have one day," she said.

Fugiett expressed her gratitude for being a recipient of the national award.

"Honestly, when I think about it, I'm kind of just speechless, because it's out of all the health and PE college students in the nation, and it's hard for me to wrap my head around that I was chosen to kind of represent Indiana," she said. "So I'm just really, really honored, and I'm excited to be able to meet some of the other Majors of the Year and then hopefully build those lifelong connections to bounce ideas back off of each other throughout the whole teaching career that I have."

# Group starts to combat fentanyl

**Bloomberg News**  
Tribune News Service

Chinese and American officials held the first meeting of a working group that aims to curb the flow of illegal drugs like fentanyl to the U.S. and the chemicals used to make them.

"We reached common understanding," China's Minister of Public Security Wang Xiaohong said Tuesday, describing the talks in Beijing as "professional" and "pragmatic."

"Our two sides agreed to follow the principles of mutual respect, managing differences, and mutually beneficial cooperation as we work to carry on cooperation on counternarcotics," Wang said.

The U.S. side emphasized the need for progress. "President Biden sent such a significant delegation to underscore the importance of this issue to the American people," Deputy Homeland Security Advisor Jen Daskal said at the meeting.

She referred to the meeting between Joe Biden and Chinese President Xi Jinping in the U.S. last year

and him telling the story of the child of a friend in Delaware who died of a fentanyl overdose. "This was a deeply personal story of President Biden, but it is unfortunately not a unique story in the United States."

The talks underscore how ties between China and the U.S. have stabilized since Biden and Xi met in California in November. The working group was one of the main outcomes of that sitdown, and it was quickly followed by the U.S. lifting sanctions on a Chinese government forensics laboratory in return for Beijing's promise to clamp down on the fentanyl trade.

Biden is eager to show progress in the fight against fentanyl and other synthetic opioids, which have caused U.S. overdose deaths to skyrocket in the last decade. Opioids have become an issue in the 2024 election, with Republicans accusing Biden of not doing enough to stop fentanyl from coming across the U.S.-Mexico border.

# Farm ...

Continued from page 2  
"They just want to be sure that nothing happens that starts to erode that safety net."

But Chris Daley, executive director of the American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU) of Indiana, said Culp's bill "raises concerns about unlawful national origin discrimination."

He argued that citizens from the adversarial countries "live lawfully in Indiana" and "contribute to our economy and community wellbeing."

"Yet, if this bill becomes law, they will be unable to participate as owners in farming in our state. Some of those individuals support their governments and others do not — including those who have fled from their home countries," Daley said. "If Indiana is going to address concerns about ownership of agricultural land in our state, it must do so in a way that does not punish people for the actions of the government of the country in which they were born."

Daley maintained that legal permanent residents who don't give up citizenship in their home country may have already been living in the United States for "15, 20, 30 years" but still would be outlawed from buying Indiana farmland.

"This bill doesn't protect our land from our adversaries because it includes the millions and millions of people born into those countries. We can't label everyone who was born in China as an adversary. We welcome many of them into our country, and they become contributing members of our society. That's the overreach of this bill," Daley continued. "We're labeling anyone born in one of these eight countries as an adversary, even if they fled the government that we oppose, even if they oppose that home

*'We can't label everyone who was born in China as an adversary. ... That's the overreach of this bill.'*

—Chris Daley,  
ACLU of Indiana

country, that government, and had to flee for that reason. We're now saying to them, 'You cannot be involved as an owner in farming in Indiana.' That's the complication."

Culp said in response that individuals from foreign adversarial countries can still become farmland owners if they take the proper steps.

"If they're living here, there's a process to go through to become a U.S. citizen," Culp said. "If they haven't gone through that process, yes, they are subject to the terms of this bill."

Others recommended tweaks to the bill — like a more robust exception to allow for continued agriculture research, as well as clarification around the affidavit requirement.

"What I'm concerned about at that closing table is that affidavit. Who drafts the affidavit? What do we do with that affidavit?" asked Elizabeth Berg, representing the Indiana Land Title Association and the Indiana State Bar Association. "People lie on affidavits, unfortunately. I have litigated that issue. So, I am just questioning whether we even need that."

# HEALTHCARE

## How to begin the day in a positive frame of mind

Each new day brings the potential for change, even amid the routine of the daily grind. When people start the day with positive thoughts, it can affect how they behave and see themselves throughout the day, and may even benefit their overall health.

The Mayo Clinic says some studies suggest personality traits such as optimism and pessimism can affect many areas of a person's health and well-being. Positive thinking that is pronounced in optimistic people is associated with effective stress management, which translates into many different health benefits.

Some people abide by the "Law of Attraction," which states that what a person gives attention to and thinks about throughout the day is what will be predominant in their life. Whether this is true or not, many aspire to have more positive thoughts and be in a generally optimistic mindset. The following tips can put people on a positive path at the start of each day.



time meditating, praying, reading, or just being in the moment until you are awake.

### Recognize the good people are doing

When you open your eyes and focus on the positives, you'll see all the good that other people are doing around you. Offering compliments or acknowledging others' actions, whether large or small, puts positivity out there.

### Focus on gratitude

Take a few moments at the start of each day to mentally list all the things you are grateful for. This may be that you have a cozy home or that you are healthy. Even stressful situations or people can be means for gratitude. Boisterous toddlers may be a handful, but you can be grateful for the ability to have had children when so many are not able.

Starting the day with a positive mindset is easier than one might think. It may take a little practice, but also can begin to pay positive dividends sooner than later.

### Begin the night before

Certain mental health experts suggest clearing the mind in the evening to reduce stressful thinking and create the mental capacity to wind down and relax. Keep a notepad handy and jot down any invasive thoughts or concerns. Removing these thoughts from the mind and putting them on paper can help you rest more readily. Being well-rested can improve mood.

### Know your weaknesses

Recognize where you may need some help as you strive to be more optimistic. Map out the behaviors you want to change, and then be inten-

tional about how you want your day to go and which actions will get you there. The Mayo Clinic suggests figuring out what you usually think negatively about (i.e., work, commuting, life changes) and then approach each aspect in a more positive way.

### Take a technology pause

Do not check email or text messages right after opening your eyes. Similarly, avoid reading the news or watching news programs on television too early. Negative or scandalous stories often get the most clicks or views, and coming across upsetting information at the outset of the day can adversely affect your mood. Rather, spend

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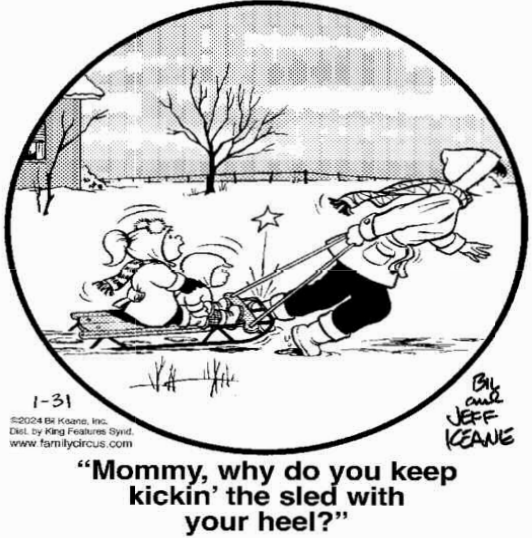
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**SPEED BUMP** Dave Coverly



**THE FAMILY CIRCUS** By Bil Keane



**Contract Bridge** By Steve Becker

**A small but significant clue**

East dealer.  
North-South vulnerable.

**NORTH**  
♠ 6 2  
♥ Q J 8  
♦ A J 9 7 2  
♣ K 5 4

**WEST**  
♠ K 8 4 3  
♥ A 7 6  
♦ Q 6 4  
♣ Q 10 6

**EAST**  
♠ J 10 9 7 5  
♥ 10 9 5 3  
♦ —  
♣ J 8 3 2

**SOUTH**  
♠ A Q  
♥ K 4 2  
♦ K 10 8 5 3  
♣ A 9 7

The bidding:  
East Pass 1 NT West Pass 3 NT  
Opening lead — three of spades.

South continued diamonds, but West took his queen and led another spade, and declarer eventually went down one, losing a diamond, three spades and a heart.

Had declarer instead played the king of diamonds at trick two, he would have made 5 notrump! The question is whether South should have known that leading the king of diamonds was a better play than leading a diamond to the ace.

The answer is yes. The telling card was West's lead of the three of spades, presumably his fourth-best spade. There were two clues South could have latched onto to read the message contained in that lead. One was that since West apparently had four spades (the deuce was in dummy), East had to have five. It followed that if the diamonds were divided 3-0, West was more likely to have all three of them than East.

The other clue rests on the presumption that West would have led from a five-card suit if he had one. Once West is credited with nothing longer than a four-card suit, it follows that he cannot be void of diamonds. Therefore, starting the diamonds by playing the king first is a much better play than leading a low diamond to the ace.

Every card played tells a story. In most cases, you don't have to be a genius to decipher the message; the cards usually speak for themselves, and all you have to do is understand what they say.

It did not take South long to go wrong on this deal. He won East's nine of spades with the queen and led a low diamond to dummy's ace. East showed out, and there was now no way to make the contract.

Tomorrow: Extra chance.  
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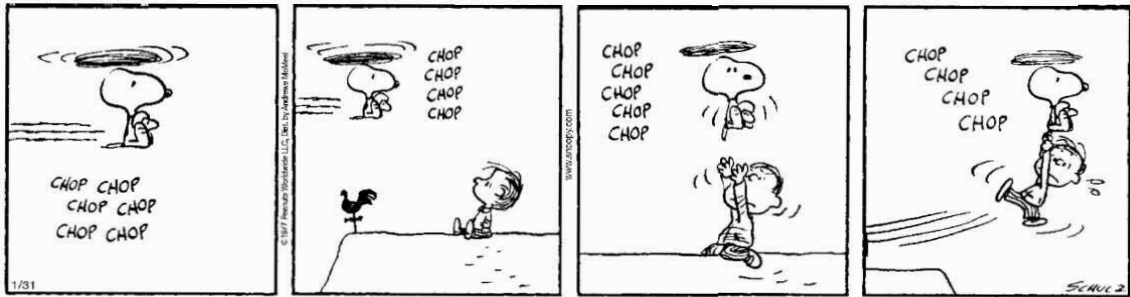
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**Peanuts**



**Rose is Rose**



**Agnes**



**Hi and Lois**



**Between Friends**



**Blondie**



**Snuffy Smith**



**Beetle Bailey**



**1-31**

**CRYPTOQUIP**

Z M H X T O E C P O G T S I H E R U  
Z N A H X R Z P H M S R P F C F Z G D  
T P G C R U T Z S R , Z G A Z E C G I R  
H G T O S N G T S O N .

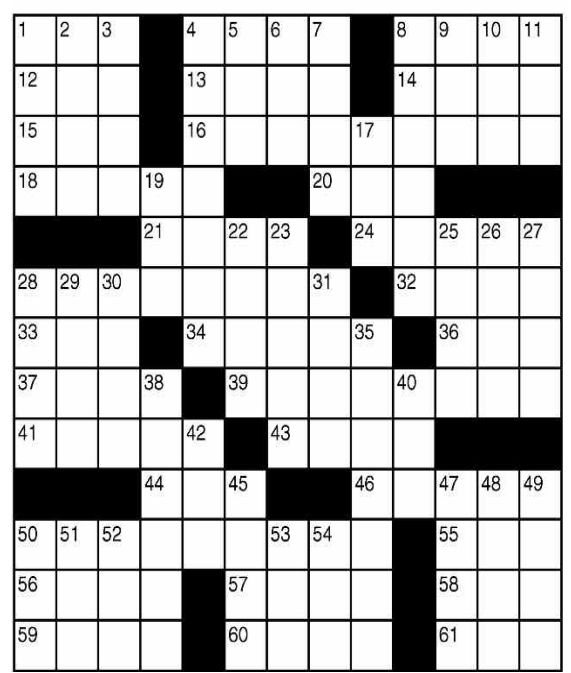
Yesterday's Cryptoquip: HOW DO YOU THINK OLD-TIME SAILORS FELT AFTER DRINKING SOME FLASKS OF WATERED-DOWN RUM? GROGGY.  
Today's Cryptoquip Clue: E equals G

**CROSSWORD** By Eugene Sheffer

<b>ACROSS</b>	<b>DOWN</b>	<b>22</b> Wedding cake layer
<b>1</b> Stir-fry vessel	<b>1</b> Feeble	<b>23</b> German philosopher
<b>4</b> \$ dispensers	<b>2</b> Folklore monster	<b>25</b> Botch up
<b>8</b> Rights org.	<b>3</b> "Today" anchor	<b>26</b> Jog
<b>12</b> Swelled head	<b>4</b> Inflatable sleepers	<b>27</b> —
<b>13</b> Othello's betrayer	<b>5</b> —	Christian Andersen
<b>14</b> Furnace fuel	<b>6</b> "High Society" do	<b>28</b> Cavort
<b>15</b> Louvre collection	<b>7</b> Weeps	<b>29</b> Israeli airline
<b>16</b> "The Night Watch" painter	<b>8</b> Source of gum arabic	<b>30</b> Transcending (Pref.)
<b>18</b> Meat and veggies on a skewer	<b>9</b> Swindle	<b>31</b> Wrestling style
<b>20</b> Pouch	<b>10</b> Young bloke	<b>35</b> Web search tools
<b>21</b> "Little Women" sister	<b>11</b> Last (Abbr.)	<b>38</b> Protective house exterior
<b>24</b> Merriment	<b>12</b> Ewe's mate	<b>40</b> Venomous viper
<b>28</b> Fixes	<b>13</b> Actor Vigoda	<b>42</b> Dijon denial
<b>32</b> Mystique	<b>14</b> U.K. recording label	<b>45</b> Waffle brand
<b>33</b> World Cup cheer	<b>15</b> McEnroe's rival	<b>47</b> Oil cartel
<b>34</b> Musical transition	<b>16</b> Probability	<b>48</b> Ten-cent piece
<b>36</b> Bit of physics	<b>17</b> Cartoon frame	<b>49</b> Go yachting
<b>37</b> Yoga class pads	<b>18</b> U.K. recording label	<b>50</b> Tease
<b>39</b> Fabric leftovers	<b>19</b> Actor Vigoda	<b>51</b> Punk rock offshoot
<b>41</b> Unadorned	<b>20</b> Merriment	<b>52</b> Scratch the surface
	<b>21</b> "Little Women" sister	<b>53</b> Smidgen
	<b>22</b> Wedding cake layer	<b>54</b> Vintage

**Solution time: 23 mins.**

Yesterdays answer 1-31



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# Paths ...

Continued from page 8

Their path appeared even easier after the wild-card round when, with the 49ers on bye, the second-seeded Cowboys and the Eagles, who began the season 10-1, were both eliminated in upsets.

Yet San Francisco struggled in the divisional round against seventh-seeded Green Bay, needing a missed 41-yard field goal by Packers kicker Anders Carlson in the fourth quarter; a go-ahead touchdown by Christian McCaf-

frey with 1:07 left in the game; and an ill-advised interception by Packers quarterback Jordan Love to advance with a 24-20 win.

Sunday's 34-31 win against the Lions was even uglier: Detroit led 24-7 at halftime before a comedy of breaks went San Francisco's way. A tipped ball off of a Lions defender's helmet landed in Brandon Aiyuk's hands for a 51-yard gain on a touchdown drive. The Lions' Josh Reynolds dropped two crucial passes. Jahmyr Gibbs lost a critical fumble.

And Detroit coach Dan Campbell made several aggressive calls on 4th down that didn't convert.

The Niners boast perhaps the NFL's deepest roster, with four players — McCaffrey, Aiyuk, Deebo Samuel and George Kittle — who eclipsed 1,000 scrimmage yards. There are big names across the defense, including Nick Bosa, Fred Warner, Chase Young, Javon Hargrave and Arik Armstead. Quarterback Brock Purdy hasn't played at the same

level of efficiency that he did during the regular season but made key plays with his right arm and legs on Sunday.

Still, the 49ers look shakier than they have in months.

Next month's Super Bowl — the ninth rematch in the big game's history — again features Mahomes, Kelce, Jones and Reid for Kansas City and Samuel, Kittle, Bosa and Shanahan for San Francisco. The biggest new additions to this year's game are McCaffrey, whom the Niners

added in 2022, and Purdy, who would become the first Mr. Irrelevant to win the Super Bowl as a quarterback in NFL history.

"They've been doing it a while," Shanahan said of the Chiefs. "Since we met them in [2020], seems like they've been there every year since. We've been trying really hard to get back to that moment. We've been close a number of times and this time we got it done. Spend these two weeks to prepare and make sure it's a hell of a game."

# Sports on tap

### Local schedule

**Thursday**  
Jay County — Girls swimming sectional at Jay County — 5:30 p.m.; Boys basketball vs. Southern Wells — 6 p.m.; Junior high wrestling at South Adams — 5:30 p.m.  
Fort Recovery — Girls basketball at St. Henry — 6 p.m.; Swimming dual-meet at South Adams — 6 p.m.; Middle school boys basketball at St. Henry — 5

p.m.; Eighth grade girls basketball MAC tournament at Parkway — 5 p.m.; Seventh grade girls basketball MAC tournament at Coldwater — 5 p.m.

### TV sports

**Today**  
1 p.m. — College football: Reese's Senior Bowl practice (ESPN2)  
2:30 p.m. — Premier League: Brentford at Tottenham Hotspur (USA)  
6:30 p.m. — Men's college basket-

ball: Northwestern at Purdue (BTN); St. John's at Xavier (FS1)  
7 p.m. — Men's college basketball: Notre Dame at Virginia (ESPN2)  
7:30 p.m. — NHL: Los Angeles Kings at Nashville Predators (TNT)  
8 p.m. — Men's college basketball: Florida at Kentucky (ESPN)  
8:30 p.m. — NBA: Phoenix Suns at Brooklyn Nets (ABC)  
8:30 p.m. — Men's college basketball: Providence at UConn (FS1); Penn

State at Rutgers (BTN)  
9 p.m. — Men's college basketball: Vanderbilt at Auburn (ESPN2)  
10:30 p.m. — Men's college basketball: Boise State at New Mexico (FS1)  
**Thursday**  
2:45 p.m. — BBL basketball: Plymouth City Patriots at Manchester Giants (Bally Indiana)  
3:15 p.m. — Premier League: Man-

chester United at Wolverhampton (USA)  
6 p.m. — NHL: All Star Weekend (ESPN2)  
6 p.m. — Women's college basketball: Wisconsin at Ohio State (BTN)  
7 p.m. — NFL: Pro Bowl games - Skills Showdown (ESPN)  
7 p.m. — Men's college basketball: Tulane at SMU (ESPN2)  
7:30 p.m. — NBA: Los Angeles Lakers at Boston Celtics (TNT); Indiana

Pacers at New York Knicks (Bally Indiana)  
8:30 p.m. — Men's college basketball: Wisconsin at Nebraska (BTN)  
8:30 p.m. — Women's college basketball: Texas at Baylor (ESPN)  
9 p.m. — Men's college basketball: Stanford at Arizona State (ESPN2)  
10 p.m. — NBA: Philadelphia 76ers at Utah Jazz (TNT)  
10:30 p.m. — Men's college basketball: Oregon at USC (ESPN)

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### 40 NOTICES

**PLEASE NOTE:** Be sure to check your ad the first day it appears. We cannot be responsible for more than one day's incorrect copy. We try hard not to make mistakes, but they do happen, and we may not know unless you call to tell us. Call before 12:00 pm for corrections. The Commercial Review, 309 W Main, Portland, Indiana 260-726-8141.

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296 Acres offered in tracts and combinations. Tract 1: 116 Acres in section 7 Jefferson Township, Jay County with 74.83 acres tillable balance being confinement buildings, shop buildings, house, and wooded.  
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Tract 3: 31 Acres in section 8 Jefferson Township, Jay County with 30.4 acres tillable balance being road frontage.  
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AC31800004  
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### 250 PUBLIC NOTICE

### Public Notice

**NOTICE OF REAL PROPERTY COMMISSIONERS' CERTIFICATE SALE**  
Jay County Indiana  
Beginning 10:00 AM Local Time,  
March 13, 2024  
Commissioners' Room  
STATE OF INDIANA  
Jay County

Pursuant to the laws of the Indiana General Assembly and by resolution of the Jay County Commissioners, notice is hereby given that the following described tracts or items of real property are listed for sale for delinquent taxes and/or special assessments. The minimum sale prices listed below are less than the minimum sale prices when offered in the immediately preceding county tax sale held under Section 5 of IC 6-1.1-24 and include all fees and expenses of the county directly attributable to the Commissioners' Certificate Sale. The Jay County Commissioners will accept bids for the certificates of sale, for the price referred to in IC 6-1.1-24.6.1(a)(3), by public auction on 03/13/2024 at 10:00 AM Courthouse Time at Commissioners' Room. At the discretion of local officials, the tax sale may switch to an online format. If those measures are taking place, the public auction will be conducted as an electronic sale under IC 6-1.1-24-2(b)10 at www.zeusauction.com commencing on the same date / time listed above. All location updates will be posted at www.sriservices.com prior to the tax sale. Pursuant to IC 6-1.1-24-5.1, a business entity that seeks to register to bid in an Indiana Commissioners' Certificate Sale must provide to the county treasurer, a Certificate of Existence or Foreign Registration Statement in accordance with IC 5-23 from the Secretary of State.

Pursuant to IC 6-1.1-24-3(e), property descriptions may be omitted for properties appearing on the certified list in consecutive years. A complete property list may be obtained at www.sriservices.com or in an alternative form upon request. A person redeeming each tract or item of real property after the sale of the certificate must pay: (A) the amount of the minimum bid under Section 5 of IC 6-1.1-24 for which the tract or item of real property was last offered for sale; (B) ten percent (10%) of the amount for which the certificate is sold; (C) the attorney's fees and costs of giving notice under IC 6-1.1-25-4.5; (D) the costs of a title search or of examining and updating the abstract of title for the tract or item of real property; (E) all taxes and special assessments on the tract or item of real property paid by the purchaser after the sale of the certificate plus interest at the rate of ten percent (10%) per annum on the amount of taxes and special assessments paid by the purchaser on the redeemed property; and (F), all costs of sale, advertising costs, and other expenses of the county directly attributable to the sale of the certificate. If the certificate is sold for an amount more than the minimum bid under Section 5 of IC 6-1.1-24 for which the tract or item of real property was last offered for sale and the property is not redeemed, the owner of record of the tract or item of real property who is divested of ownership at the time the tax debt is issued may have a right to the tax sale surplus. Indiana law prohibits a person who owes delinquent taxes, special assessments, penalties, interest, or costs directly attributable to a prior tax sale, from purchasing tracts or items of real property at a tax sale. Prior to bidding at a tax sale, each bidder must affirm un-

der the penalties for perjury that he or she does not owe delinquent taxes, special assessments, penalties, interest, costs directly attributable to a prior tax sale, amounts from a final adjudication in favor of a political subdivision in this county, any civil penalties imposed for the violation of a building code or ordinance of this county, or any civil penalties imposed by a health department in this county. Further, each bidder must acknowledge that any successful bid made in violation of the above statement is subject to forfeiture. In the event of forfeiture, the bid amount shall be applied to the delinquent taxes, special assessments, penalties, interest, costs, judgments, or civil penalties of the ineligible bidder, and a certificate will be issued to the county executive. The Commissioners specifically reserve the right to withhold from the sale any parcel which has been listed in error, or which otherwise becomes ineligible for sale either prior to the start or during the duration of the auction. The Auditor's Office does not warrant the accuracy of the key numbers or street addresses published herein and any misstatement in the key number or street address does not invalidate an otherwise valid sale. Dated: 01/31/2024

382300001 38-01-27-403-009-000-011 \$26.42 PENNINGTON JIMMY L JR LOT 17 GRISSELL 3RD ADD VACANT LOT N MULBERRY PENNVILLE 47369

382300003 38-01-27-404-054-001-011 \$174.73 MYERS JENNIFER PT 'A' 66' X 103' VACANT LAND E MAPLE ST PENNVILLE 47369

382300008 38-09-08-101-070-000-014 \$454.42 BOWLER ERIC T PARCEL B PT OF O L 2 .12A PT OF O L 3 GEORGE B SULLIVANS ADD VACANT LAND NORTHEAST OF MT AUBURN & WEST OF ALLEY DUNKIRK DUNKIRK 47336

382300010 38-09-08-101-121-000-014 \$8,565.23 RITENOUR MARCUS & SUMMER PT (21 X 12) BLK 29 O P VACANT LAND N INDIANA ST DUNKIRK 47336

382300017 38-09-08-103-005-000-014 \$1,095.42 FISHER HOWARD LOT 19 BLK 37 O P VACANT LOT W WASHINGTON ST DUNKIRK 47336

382300018 38-09-08-103-025-000-014 \$421.00 MCCOMBS TINA R LOT 23 BLK 37 O P 328 W WASHINGTON ST DUNKIRK 47336

382300022 38-09-08-103-157-000-014 \$8,474.39 BERRY JAVIS SCOTT W PT LOT 1 BLK 15 O P 115 W JAY ST DUNKIRK 47336

382300023 38-09-08-104-010-000-014 \$426.30 SINGH RAJA S 1/2 S 1/2 LOTS 3 & 4 BLK 28 OF VACANT LOT N INDIANA ST DUNKIRK 47336

382300024 38-09-08-104-016-000-014 \$291.18 BISHOP MATTHEW 32 X 130 PT LOT 2 BLK 18 VACANT LOT MAIN ST DUNKIRK 47336

382300025 38-09-08-104-083-000-014 \$692.15 DUTY DONNA LOT 5 RAILROAD ADD VACANT LOT E RAILROAD ST DUNKIRK 47336

382300026 38-09-08-104-084-000-014 \$510.58 DUTY DONNA J & ELLEN KATHLEEN JT WRIGHTS OF SURV LOT 6 & W 1/2 LOT 7 RAILROAD ADD 225 RAILROAD ST DUNKIRK 47336

382300027 38-09-08-204-004-000-014 \$312.78 INGLE ALAN R LOTS 3001 3002 & 3003 DLN 4TH ADD 611 W "D" ST DUNKIRK 47336

382300031 38-09-08-402-086-000-014 \$671.87 RQ TAX LIEN INVESTMENT INC RICHARD QUIZON LOT 8 EVANS & WILSON ADD VACANT LOT E ORANGE AVE DUNKIRK 47336

382300039 38-09-09-203-003-000-014 \$910.36 MOREHEAD STEVEN

MICHAEL LOT 1 - 2 J M SMITH SUB DIV VACANT LOTS E HIGH ST DUNKIRK 47336

382300042 38-09-09-203-093-000-014 \$1,699.27 NORRIS LOGAN JAMES & CASEY RAE BROCK LOT 8-10 SNIFF & JOHNSON SD 509 E NORTH ST DUNKIRK 47336

382300043 38-09-09-203-101-000-014 \$949.53 DUTCH LLC LOT 7 SNIFF & JOHNSON SUB DIV VACANT LOT E NORTH ST DUNKIRK 47336

382300045 38-09-09-302-011-000-014 \$286.96 LOWE REBA G LOT 3 CARLES ADD VACANT LOT E WASHINGTON ST DUNKIRK 47336

382300046 38-09-09-302-017-000-014 \$403.16 MAHON RANDY J NEIL LOT 5 PURDOMS ADD VACANT LOT PALACE ST DUNKIRK 47336

382300047 38-09-09-302-025-000-014 \$471.64 JONES ELIZABETH LOT 6 CARLES ADD VACANT LOT "A" ST DUNKIRK 47336-0000

382300048 38-09-09-302-049-000-014 \$8,362.85 MAHON RANDY J NEIL INLOT 1466 DUNKIRK LAND CO ADD VACANT LOT PALACE ST DUNKIRK 47336

382300049 38-09-09-302-050-000-014 \$299.31 MAHON RANDY J NEIL LOTS 12 & 13 PURDOMS ADD VACANT LOTS E PALACE ST DUNKIRK 47336

382300058 38-03-17-301-018-000-021 \$2,222.67 ROBINSON AMANDA CRYSTAL 65' S END OF LOT 4 BLK 14 103 S HENDRICKS ST BRYANT 47326

382300072 38-10-15-403-028-000-024 \$29.33 GARRINGER BRIAN LEE LOT 8 W ADD NEW MT PLEASANT S15 T22 R13 VACANT LAND W 57S PORTLAND 47371

382300075 38-10-33-202-014-000-024 \$40.46 JEFFRIS JOSEPH JESSICA NEWSOME CASH RAY PINKSTON TENS PT LOT 1 & 44 1/2 OF LOT 1 BLK 3 POWERS STATION S33 T22 R13 VACANT LOT POWERSTATION S 600 W PORTLAND 47371

382300076 38-10-33-202-015-000-024

\$24.30 JEFFRIS JOSEPH JESSICA NEWSOME CASH RAY PINKSTON TENS PT LOT 1 BLK 3 POWERS STATION S33 T22 R13 VACANT LOT POWERSTATION S 600 W PORTLAND 47371

382300094 38-11-23-400-020-000-029 \$24.10 SONGER FRANK H & ROSALIE LOTS 3 & 4 BLK 5 BOUNDARY LOT E 1/2 FRAC SE 1/4 S23 T22 R14 .50 A VACANT LAND E TREATY LINE RD PORTLAND 47371

382300095 38-09-08-102-002-000-030 \$22.82 LEIST TERRY W PT O L 3 100 X 133.9' S8 T22 R12 .25A CONTRACT DOC # 2003671 12317 W BLACKFORD AVE DUNKIRK 47336

382300110 38-09-23-101-114-000-031 \$191.79 APPENZELLER HARRY H JR N PT LOT 46 O P VACANT LOTS UNION ST REDKEY 47373

382300118 38-09-24-022-122-000-031 \$43.87 WISENER PATRICK T LOT 109 C&E ADD 145 E DELAWARE ST REDKEY 47373

382300152 38-07-20-401-034-000-034 \$83.47 HEARN CHRIS C "G" PT NE 1/4 SE 1/4 S20 T23 R14 .12A VACANT LAND SHIP ST PORTLAND 47371

382300201 38-09-09-302-010-000-014 \$333.65 JONES LYDIA, FREEMAN ELIZABETH & MILLER NAOMI ESTHER LOT 4 CARLES ADD VACANT LOT E WASHINGTON ST DUNKIRK 47336

Total Number of Properties: 32  
I hereby certify that the above real properties have been offered in one tax sale, have not received a bid for at least the amount required under I.C. 6-1.1-24-5 and have been identified in a resolution of the Board of Commissioners for Jay County, Indiana, to be offered for sale.

Emily Franks, Auditor, Jay County Indiana.

CRNS 1-17-24,31-2024 -HSPAXLP

# Sports

## Kadarius Toney practices for SB

*Kansas City wide receiver says Chiefs lied about his injury status*

By **BLAIR KERKHOFF**

The Kansas City Star  
Tribune News Service

Andy Reid said wide receiver Kadarius Toney, who said the Chiefs were lying about his injury status before the AFC Championship Game victory over the Baltimore Ravens, is expected to be at practice this week.

"He'll back back out there," Reid said. "We'll see how he does. ... He's been on the injury report. That part's not made up by any means."

"He's been working through some things. He'll be back out there."

The Chiefs, who will meet the San Francisco 49ers in Super Bowl LVIII in Las Vegas on Feb. 11, will practice this week on Thursday.

Toney was ruled out of the Ravens game with a hip injury and was listed as questionable in the team's final designation last week. He was inactive for the game along with others who are dealing with injuries, like offensive guard Joe Thuney and linebacker Willie Gay.

But on Saturday night, in a profanity-laced rant on an Instagram live video, Toney accused the Chiefs of lying about the injury.

"You all reading all this cap-ass (stuff)," Toney said. "You can really believe it, I don't give a (care). ... But yeah, that (stuff) cap (is untrue). I'm not hurt. ... I'm not hurt. None of that. It goes from hip to ankle to this to that."

Reid said he had not seen the video but was aware of it.

Toney appeared in 13 regular-season games, but none since the Week 15 victory at the New England Patriots. In that game, Toney bobbled a Patrick Mahomes pass that became an interception. He's been inactive for the Chiefs' three playoff games.

The third-year pro has 27 receptions on 38 targets for 169 yards and a touchdown. He also was involved in what would have been one of the highlight plays of the Chiefs season when he took a lateral from Travis Kelce and turned it into a touchdown against the Buffalo Bills. But Toney was penalized for lining up off-side.

Toney, a former first-round draft selection of the New York Giants, was acquired by the Chiefs in a trade last season.



## Shoot for the moon

Jay County High School senior Trevin Dunnington pulls a 3-pointer from the corner on Saturday's 56-43 win over Blackford. Dunnington had eight points in the game that the Patriots pushed their winning streak to four as they inch back towards .500.

## Chiefs, 49ers had different paths to Super Bowl LVIII

By **PETER SBLENDORIO**

New York Daily News  
Tribune News Service

The Kansas City Chiefs and San Francisco 49ers made it to Super Bowl LVIII under very different circumstances.

The defending-champion Chiefs, fresh off the most unspectacular regular season of the Patrick Mahomes era, plowed through a gauntlet of AFC heavyweights, winning twice as road underdogs to reach their fourth Super Bowl in five years.

The NFC's top-seeded 49ers, meanwhile, survived a pair of uncharacteristically uneven performances at home, needing second-half comebacks to eke by opponents they were favored to beat by at least a touchdown.

It all adds up to a rematch of 2020's Super Bowl LIV, a game Mahomes and the Chiefs won, 31-20, after overcoming a 10-point fourth-quarter deficit.

This year's game features the NFL's best quarterback in Mahomes and the league's most star-powered offense with the 49ers. It features two of the game's top offensive coaches in Kansas City's Andy Reid and San Francisco's Kyle Shanahan. It features a pair of stout defenses that both surrendered fewer than 18 points per game in the regular season.

With all of those similarities, it makes sense Las Vegas — where the Super Bowl will be played on Feb. 11 — views the game just shy of a pick'em. The Niners opened as -2.5 favorites, but the line shifted to -1 overnight, according to the DraftKings sportsbook.

So how did we get here?

Long known for their high-powered offense, the Chiefs this year rode a defense led by pass-rushing tackle Chris Jones, shutdown corner L'Jarius Sneed and coordinator Steve Spagnuolo to an 11-6

record and the AFC's No. 3 seed.

Offensive issues, however, invited concerns about Kansas City's playoff ceiling. The Chiefs averaged 21.3 points per game, which ranked 15th in the league. A worrisome wide receiver group devoid of a No. 1 option contributed to the team's NFL-high 44 drops. Travis Kelce's 984 receiving yards marked his fewest in eight years, warranting speculation about whether the star tight end was regressing at age 34.

A deep playoff run appeared especially improbable toward the end of the regular season, when Kansas City lost four of six games between Nov. 20 and Dec. 25 and failed to reach 20 points in any of those losses.

The playoffs proved to be a different story.

Mahomes overcame ice-cold elements in Kansas City to throw for 262 yards and rush for 41 in an opening-round win over the Dolphins; traded touchdowns with Josh Allen and beat the second-seeded Bills in Buffalo in the divisional round; and did just enough in Sunday's 17-10 victory over Lamar Jackson and the top-seeded Ravens in the AFC Championship Game in Baltimore.

After throwing a career-worst 14 interceptions in the regular season, Mahomes is yet to throw one this postseason. His QBR of 90.2 in the playoffs greatly exceeds the 63.0 mark he put up in the regular season. His clutch, 32-yard completion to Marquez Valdes-Scantling on 3rd and 9 with just over two minutes remaining in the Ravens game clinched the win with his offense on the field.

Mahomes now boasts a 14-3 record, has completed 67% of his passes and has thrown for 4,802 yards and 39 touchdowns against seven interceptions in 17 career playoff games — the

equivalent of a full regular season.

Kelce followed up his modest regular season with three consecutive playoff games of at least five catches and 71 yards. His contested touchdown catch on Sunday's opening drive marked his third score of the playoffs.

Running back Isiah Pacheco's 254 rushing yards leads all players this postseason. He's scored in all three games. And the Chiefs' defense has been better than ever, limiting the Dolphins, Bills and Ravens' top-tier offenses to an average of 13.7 points per game.

Across the board, the battle-tested Chiefs are playing their best football of the season. A win would represent the fifth time in NFL history an organization won three Super Bowls in a five-year stretch, following the Steelers from 1976-80; the Cowboys from 1992-95; and the Patriots from 2001-04 and from 2014-18.

"You don't take it for granted," Mahomes said. "You never know how many you're going to get to, or if you're going to get to any. It truly is special just to do it with these guys after what we've been through all season long, guys coming together. It really is special, but I told them, job's not done. Our job now is to prepare ourselves to play a good football team in the Super Bowl and try to get that ring."

There's history on the line, too, for the Niners, who with a win would tie the Patriots and Steelers for the most Super Bowl titles with six.

San Francisco entered the playoffs as the NFC's top seed and the favorite to cruise through the conference after a dominant regular season in which they ranked top-three in the NFL in scoring (28.9 points per game) and on defense (17.5).

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