



WEEKEND EDITION

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# Herald & Review

Going out a winner  
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Decatur's Farm and Fleet marks 40th anniversary  
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Saturday-Sunday, April 4-5, 2026

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## COMMUNITY

# 'CHECK ON YOUR PEOPLE'



JOSEPH RESSLER PHOTOS, HERALD & REVIEW

"I need you guys to do one thing and one thing only, and that is to check on your people!" Jayjuan Boatman records as an ambulance team arrives at an apartment building in Decatur on March 7.

## Jayjuan Boatman turns hashtag into a movement

VALERIE WELLS  
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DECATUR — At just 24, Jayjuan Boatman has become one of Decatur's most recognizable voices from the driver's seat of his car, chasing flashing lights and posting real-time updates to his social media followers.

What began as Snapchat videos of sirens and city council meetings has grown into a grassroots reporting platform — and a movement he calls "Check on Your People" — rooted in faith, community and a lifelong love for the city that raised him.

On Facebook, and until recently, he was known as Jayjuan Young, but changed his surname to Boatman to honor his beloved grandmother.

Check on Your People grew out of his fascination with noticing things while he was out and about.

"I started saying it naturally about four years ago," Boatman said. "No strategy behind it. But as I grew, I realized it carries real meaning. People are going through

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Jayjuan Boatman pulls over to record an ambulance responding to an apartment building for his social media pages and the "Check on Your People" community in Decatur on March 7.

## MIDDLE EAST

# US fighter jet shot down over Iran

KANISHKA SINGH AND ENAS ALASHRAY  
Reuters

WASHINGTON/CAIRO — Iran shot down a U.S. warplane Friday, setting off a search by both sides for surviving crew as the war looked set to intensify with President Donald Trump threatening more attacks on civilian infrastructure.

CBS News reported one crew member from the plane was rescued, citing two U.S. officials.

Iran's Revolutionary Guard Corps said it was combing an area near where the plane came down in southwestern Iran. The regional governor promised a commendation for anyone who captured or killed the pilot.

A U.S. military official confirmed that a fighter jet was shot down and a search was under way.

Iranian news agencies said U.S. helicopters were flying low on apparent search missions and carried videos of residents shooting at them.

## Details scarce

There were no confirmed details of the searches or the type of aircraft shot down, which the Iranian military said was an F-35, a single-seater. The Pentagon and U.S. Central Command did not immediately respond to requests for comment.

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## A GRAIN OF SALT

# What makes, breaks a restaurant

DECATUR — Now it's the customer's turn.

What are the things that a restaurant does — or doesn't — do that will make a customer rethink a return visit?



DONNETTE BECKETT

This month's Grain of Salt column reaches out to the customers-in-the-seats in search of unique reasons for avoiding an eating establishment.

Food isn't the only deal breaker when picking a restaurant. Poor customer service, lack of cleanliness, even weak or flimsy utensils play a role in whether a customer may never return.

For me, if the business has empty toilet paper or paper towel dispensers, I will have to contemplate returning. My first thought: if the business can't attend to something simple like checking on the bathroom, how much attention are they going to give to my burger?

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## Weather

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