

THE COLUMBUS Telegram

Shamrocks
struggle against
Dragons

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College
instructor
turns to
typewriters to
curb AI use

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Wednesday, April 8, 2026

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LINCOLN SISTERS HAD 1 MISSION AT THE CAPITOL



KENNETH FERRIERA, JOURNAL STAR

Violet Troupe, 10, left, her sister Belle, 8, and their parents, Matthew and Grace, pose for a portrait in the Capitol Rotunda. The Troupe girls have been lobbying senators this session to require insurance companies to cover a medical treatment.

Here's their story

CHRIS DUNKER
Lincoln Journal Star

Violet and Belle Troupe have a bright future in government relations.

Armed with a rehearsed pitch and a packet of information, the Lincoln girls have become creatures of the Capitol, cornering senators in the Rotunda or visiting their offices to ask their support for one bill

and one bill only.

On Tuesday, the Troupes — Violet is 10, Belle is 8 — won their first legislative battle as lobbyists, watching intently as senators voted 45-0 in favor of a bill (LB762) requiring insurance companies to cover an expensive medical treatment.

Violet expected the bill sponsored by Lincoln Sen. George Dungan to pass,

particularly with the hard work she and Belle put in to speak one-on-one with 43 lawmakers, but the final tally surpassed the total she had penciled in on her vote card.

“I was expecting it to at least be in the 30s,” Violet said. “I was definitely expecting our bill to win, so that way I could toss

Please see **SISTERS**, Page A3

PepperJax Grill Columbus location closes its doors

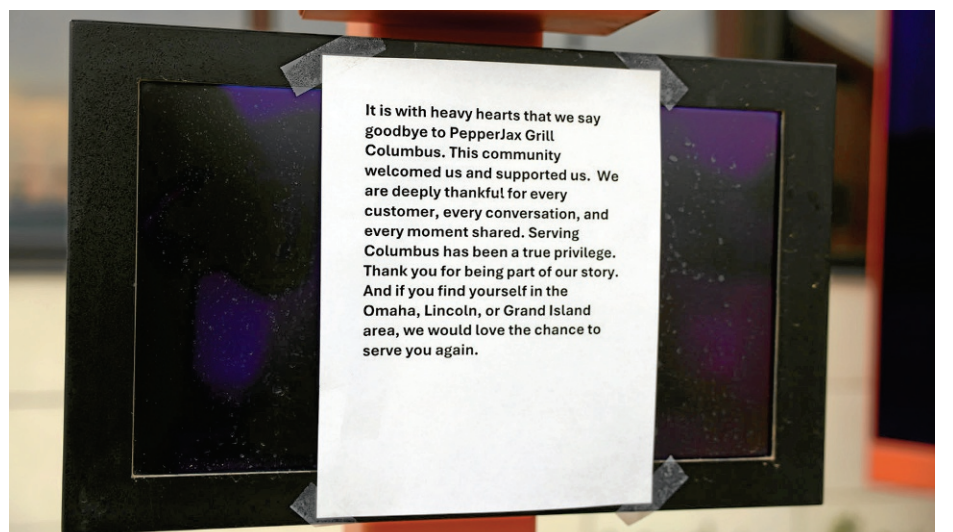
JARED BARTON
Columbus Telegram

On April 6, PepperJax Grill in Columbus posted a notice on its door announcing that the store is permanently closing. The notice informed customers at the drive-thru and entrances that, with heavy hearts, staff are saying goodbye to the Columbus location.

The notice said that the community welcomed and supported PepperJax and they are thankful for all the customers and moments they shared with the staff. Locations in Omaha, Grand Island and Lincoln welcome Columbus PepperJax customers should they seek their offerings in the future.

A notice on the drive-thru window at PepperJax Grill in Columbus informs customers the location is now closed and thanks the community for the support over the two years it's been in operation.

JARED BARTON, COLUMBUS TELEGRAM



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Mostly sunny, windy
High 67 • Low 34
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