




**Tacos are back!**  
 Thursday 3-8 p.m.  
**\$1 beer**  
**V.F.W.**  
 Corner of Fourth Ave. & Orange, Hoopeston



**First-time ever  
 LEI Jeans sale  
 \$19.99  
 (reg. \$27.99)  
 New MUD just in!  
 Global Fashions  
 305 E. Main, Hoopeston**

**Great stocking stuffer!**  
**Tokens -  
 5 for \$20**  
 Save 50c per wash!  
**Plaza, Hoopeston &  
 Mill Ford Car Wash**



Lourdine Florek  
 owner/publisher

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## Hoopeston soldier gives mother early Christmas present

Linda Zimmerman got an early Christmas gift Wednesday afternoon. Her son, Brock, returned home from Germany.



Mrs. Zimmerman thought her son was returning Friday but Brock and his father, Emery, decided to surprise her with an early return. After arriving in Hoopeston, Zimmerman, in his dress blues, made a stop at Flowers and Gifts by Molly Culbert to pick up a bouquet for his mother. From there, he drove Subway, where he parked and walked to the Capstone Bank drive-through facility on Penn St., where Mrs. Zimmerman works.

As Zimmerman strode to the foyer of the facility, his mother stood in the window, hand over her mouth, tears filling her eyes. She quickly walked out to hug and kiss her son.

Mr. Zimmerman, who greeted his son at Molly's, watched the reunion from a distance. "This is her surprise," he said., adding he brought binoculars and would watch from Subway.

That Mrs. Zimmerman did not find out about the surprise was surprising to her son. "She still doesn't know?," he asked Mr. Zimmerman at Molly's. When Mr. Zimmerman answered "no," Zimmerman looked surprised. "I told everybody," he said.

Zimmerman entered the National Guard in October 1997 and went on active duty after receiving his commission in 2000. The Army captain served in Kosovo with the peacekeeping force and is now stationed in Vilseck, Germany. On Jan. 3, 2004, Zimmerman will leave Hoopeston, headed for Iraq. This is his first trip home since October 2002.

A party will be held in Zimmerman's honor, and that of Andy Cade, at 6 p.m. Friday at the Hoopeston American Legion. Food and drink will be provided by the Zimmermans and Chris and Gary Cade. Full Circle Band will play beginning at 8 p.m. Everyone is invited.

A tearful Linda Zimmerman embraces her son, Brock, Wednesday. Zimmerman, an Army captain, is home on leave until Jan. 3.

There's lots of gifts here  
 you'll be pleased to give and  
 they'll be happy to get  
**From \$5, \$10, \$15**  
**Flowers & Gifts by Molly Culbert**  
 702 W. Main, Hoopeston 283-5578 Open 7 Days

**Hoopeston  
 American Legion  
 will open at noon  
 Christmas Eve**



**Holiday Sale**  
 There's still time to get this year's  
 hottest Christmas gift at incredible  
 savings! Today in Global Fashions  
**Charm watches \$10, Key chains \$1.50**  
**Starter bracelets \$3.**  
**Charms, buy 3, get 4th free!**  
 New shipment charms today  
**Tomorrow in Brianna's Baby Shop**  
**Open 10 a.m.-5 p.m.**  
**All \$2.50 charms, buy 2 get 3rd free.**  
 Saturday, Charms back in Global Fashions  
**Buy 3, get 4th free**  
 4,000 (\$2.50) charms to choose from  
 Right here in Hoopeston !!!

