

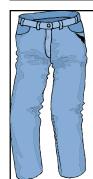


Tacos are back!

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 50¢ per wash!

Plaza, Hoopeston & Mill Ford Car Wash



Lourdine Florek owner/publisher

Just the Facts[©]

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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

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Hoopeston
American Legion
will open at noon
Christmas Eve

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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 !!!

Holiday Savings

SKIL

55 Mail in Rebate

See store for details

\$18⁸⁸ You Pay

500 Less Mail in Rebate

\$1388 Final Cost After Rebate

Single speed Jigsaw, 3/8" Drill, or 1/4 Sheet Palm Sander

Olympic Hardware



516 N. Dixie Hwy. Hoopeston (217) 283-5186 Open Sundays

CHOICE

justhe facts

is available in: Hoopeston

Rossville

*Ole Country Inn *Minuteman *Feedbag *Bray's General Store

Milford

Wellington

*Minuteman Coffee Corner and on the Internet at www.justthefacts.net

— Briefly

Open House

New Bethel Academy, 201 N. Chicago, Rossville, will hold an open house from 6-8 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 18. The public is invited. For more information, call (217) 748-6195.

Tiny Tots

"Christmas" is the theme of this week's Tiny Tots story program at the Hoopeston Public Library children's room.

Tiny Tots meets at 10:30 a.m. Fridays and 6:30 p.m. Tuesdays and is for children ages 1-4 who are accompa-

nied by an adult.

This will be the last Tiny Tots until Jan. 6.

Tour of lights

The Hoopeston Multi Agency will take area residents on the annual tour of Christmas lights from 4:30-6:30 p.m. Monday, Dec. 22. The activity is for people 55 and over.

To reserve a seat on the van, call (217) 283-5544 by Dec. 19.

Letters to Santa

Children who would like to let Santa know what they

time. **Meetings**

Hoopeston Area School Board, 7:30 p.m. Thursday, high school library

want for Christmas may take their letters to the Hoopeston

Letters can be mailed care of the Hoopeston Post, in any

postal drop box or put in a special box located in the post

office. Letters must be mailed by Dec. 24 to reach Santa in



Post Office.

Princess Alexandra's Fudge

Now available at Taco Shell!
For your ordering convenience, we'll be at Dixie Plaza Flea Market this weekend!

1 lb. packages will be available at the flea market!
Or order by phone, (217) 283-4025

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Police News

The purse reported stolen Monday from Hoopeston Area High School was found Tuesday and returned to the owner.

Paul D. Eckert, 71, of 423 N. Seventh St., was ticketed for failure to yield the right of way at a posted intersection after an accident at 7:20 a.m.

Wednesday.

Police said Eckert, in a 1997 Chevrolet truck, was northbound in the 700 block of South Fourth Ave. at Elm when he entered the intersection and hit a 1994 Ford driven by Wade E. Pickett of Hoopeston.

No injuries were reported.

New Books at the Library



Non-fiction:

Flowers by Jeff Leatham, text by Marie-Claire Blankaert

Handmade Birthdays: 101 Gift, Cake & Card Ideas for Ages 1 to 101

The Stickley Brothers: a Quest For An American Voice by Michael E., Clark

Encyclopedia of Contemporary Christian Music by Allan Powell

All the Stops: the Glorious Pipe Organ and Its American Masters by Craig R. Whitney

The Thirteen Colonies – Fodor's

The Best American Poetry

Seeking Enlightenment – Hat by Hat: a Skeptic's Path to Religion by Nevada Barr

The Secret Life of a Schoolgirl: a Memoir by Rosemary Kingsland

25 Affordable Family Trips to the USA's Best Loved Destinations – Fodor's

Marching Home: to War and Back with the Men of One American Town by Kevin Coyne

Charlie Wilson's War: the Extraordinary Story of the Largest Covert Operation in History by George Crile

Swindoll's Ultimate Book of Illustrations and Quotes by Charles R. Swindoll

Under the Banner of Heaven: a Story of Violent Faith by Jon Krakauer

Caring For Your Teenager: the Complete and Authoritative Guide/editor-in-chief Donald E. Greydanus

The Essential 55: an Award-Winning Educator's Rules for Discovering the Successful Student in Every Child by Ron Clark

The Merck Manual of Medical Information/ editor-inchief Mark H. Beers

It's My Ovaries, Stupid! By Elizabeth Lee Vliet

Weather



Chance of snow today and tonight. High 31, low 22. Tomorrow, breezy. High 35, low 26.

For current weather conditions, call Hoopeston Weather Service (217) 283-6221.

Classifieds

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Having out of town visitors? We have two 1 bedroom furnished apartments available by the night or by the week. TV, phone, utilities included. (217) 283-7996.

APARTMENTS FOR RENT

2 bdr. downstairs apt. Full basement. Appliances furnished; washer/dryer hookup. Very clean, big yard. \$350/mo., \$350 deposit. Appointments: (217) 283-7377.

Large 1 bdr. downstairs apt. in Hoopeston. New bathroom, furnace. Available now. \$285/mo. (217) 283-7439.

HOUSES FOR SALE

In Hoopeston: 2 bdr., 1 bathroom, detached garage. \$21,500. Please call Carol at (217) 283-7733.

VEHICLES FOR SALE

1990 Chrysler Fifth Avenue. Must see. Excellent condition. Always garaged. Immaculate inside & out. (217) 283-7365.

Call (217) 283-9348 to place your ad!