

DDSP and Local Commands Support Armed Forces Day

By Sherre Mitten-Bell, DDSP Public Affairs

“A Tradition of Heroes” was the theme of Central Pennsylvania’s third annual Armed Forces Day celebration on Harrisburg’s City Island in May. The joint services military event was co-hosted by



Active and retired military saluted the American Flag during the opening ceremony.

the City of Harrisburg and supported by local reserve and guard units and military commands including Defense Distribution Depot Susquehanna, PA (DDSP).

More than 15,000 people attended the event which featured military-related demonstrations, displays, music, and fireworks. The Pennsylvania Army National Guard exhibited various tracked and wheeled vehicles such as an M1A1 Abrams Tank. Interactive and competitive exhibits included a popular obstacle course challenge featuring energetic drill sergeants. Music was provided by the 276th PA Army National Guard Band and the 307th Army Reserve Band who held



Army Airborne Riggers SFC Kristian Anthony and SGT Kasey Carr made a new friend at their face painting booth.

open jam sessions with local high school musicians. A career center displayed services of local military recruiters, agencies and related organizations including the Defense Distribution Center and the DDSP



Barb Huss of the DDC Call Center manned the DDC booth, explaining the DDC mission to interested passers by.

Family Advocacy Program. The Army Airborne Riggers were also quite popular displaying parachutes from the DDSP Air Delivery and Textile Branch and painting



The 365th Engineering Battalion, a tenant on DDSP’s installation, was among the many military units displaying their equipment to attendees.

children’s faces in camouflage.

“Many DDSP employees provided valuable support in setting up and participating in this event,” said DDSP Commander CAPT Robert Ritchie, SC, USN. “I am proud that DDSP played a part in providing local military personnel a chance to display to the community what they do in the field.”



In contrast to the modern technology of today’s military, the celebration also included a Civil War re-enactment.