office before the date of the rally so their loved one could be recognized.

Noting that some troops have already died, been wounded or taken prisoner, Inverso said the rally is an opportunity for residents to express appreciation for the sacrifices and commitment of the service people and their families.

"I recognize that a difference of opinion exists on the need for action in Iraq," said Inverso. "However, this event was designed solely to demonstrate our support for the troops and their families back here in Mercer County."

Besides showing up for the rally, residents may demonstrate their support by donating items that would be shipped overseas by the United Service Organization (USO). Items that were asked to be donated included lip balm, international phone cards, disposable cameras and swimming goggles.

Lawrence township is also honoring military servicemen and servicewomen stationed in the Middle East who are Lawrence residents or whose parents, siblings or children live in the township, according to a New Jersey website.

"I believe in supporting the troops 100 percent," said Elaine Harmon, ceremony coordinator. "The veterans solemnly support servicemen and women that are currently serving in Iraq during the "Rally for the Troops" at Mercer County Park on Saturday, April 5. The ceremony is a nice way to show we care about the sacrifices the troops and their families are making for us."

"Many of the soldiers are young fathers and they are risking their lives and their families' happiness. They deserve to know they are appreciated," added Harmon. The township has received approximately 10 names of servicemen and women with local ties. A card will be hung bearing the names of the men and women and yellow ribbons will be used to tie them on the oak trees in front of the municipal building.

"We are so glad people participated," said Harmon. "We also don't want anyone to feel left out."

According to Turner, this war is to bring the country together regardless of the beliefs they have or parties they belong to.

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is going to be leader of the senate, which is the driving force behind Rider's community because all of the different organizations are represented," she said. "I'd actually like to work on the process of how the senate works though and possibly tighten it up a little bit."

Where Baum seeks to improve the senate, Hiras aims as secretary to help improve residence halls in accordance with student feedback received from surveys that went out earlier in the year, she said. "I want to help make [the halls] friendlier," she said.

The new board, according to Iacovelli, is a very experienced group of individuals who will work well with each other over the next year in Rider's benefit. "Everybody, including myself as advisor, are just so fortunate to have this board for next year," she said. "I mean, how lucky could we have been? We really got the most experienced board possible. Kimball, who was vice-president last year, now gets to move up and utilize his experience as president, and the other members who have experience with the organization, now get to move up and show what they can do as well."