



# Texas Military Forces News

*"Texans Defending Texas"*

## **MEDIA ADVISORY**

Media wishing to cover the Open House are invited to do so on Saturday, April 20th at 12 p.m., and must arrive no later than 11:30 a.m. to allow for parking and coordination. Representatives from the Texas Military Forces, City of Austin Police Department, and the American Heroes Air Show are scheduled to be available for interviews.

Media wishing to cover the start of the 5K race event are invited to do so on Sunday, April 21st at 8 a.m., and must arrive no later than 7:30 a.m., to allow for parking and coordination.

Members of the media are required to RSVP no later than Friday April 19, 2013, by 5 p.m., with Laura Lopez at (o) 512-782-5452 or (m) 512-426-0909; email: [laura.lopez25.nfg@mail.mil](mailto:laura.lopez25.nfg@mail.mil).

Media will be required to access Camp Mabry from the gate at 35th Street and Exposition and will be required to show credentials at the gate.

**FOR IMMEDIATE PUBLIC RELEASE:**

## **Texas Military Forces Open House and Air Show Kicks off Saturday, Ends Sunday**

**CAMP MABRY, Texas (April 15, 2013)** – The Texas Military Forces Open House featuring the American Heroes Air Show is scheduled to kick off on Saturday, April 20th at Camp Mabry in Austin, Texas and conclude Sunday, April 21st.

This annual, free two-day event will be open from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., both days. This year's theme, "Operation Hero Homecoming," is about welcoming back veterans from previous conflicts, as well as honoring current and former emergency and first responders. Additionally, the Open House serves as an interagency training exercise that allows the Texas National Guard to demonstrate its roles and capabilities in a way for residents and their families to enjoy.

"This is our opportunity for us to say thank you for supporting the Texas Military Forces as we have deployed thousands of your hometown guardsmen to places like Iraq and Afghanistan – as well as to fires and floods right here in Central Texas," said Texas Adjutant General Maj. Gen. John F. Nichols. "It's an honor to serve Texans both at home and abroad."

Events are scheduled to officially kick off with an opening ceremony on the parade grounds at 10 a.m. Immediately following the opening ceremony, guests will have the opportunity to watch a special Naturalization Ceremony with more than 25 U.S. service members expected to participate, including: Soldiers, Sailors, Airmen, Marines and Coast Guardsmen, in front of the Traveling Vietnam Memorial Wall. Following the ceremony, the American Heroes Air Show and the Texas Military Forces are slated to demonstrate the crucial role of helicopters in Law Enforcement, Public Safety, Urban Search and Rescue, and National Guard Support to Civil Authorities in Domestic Operations.

Both Saturday and Sunday, visitors can expect to see everything from the newest technology in communications and flight, World War II reenactments, to Soldiers and Airmen from yesteryear. Children, or the young-at-heart, may enjoy a kiddie area, K-9 demonstrations, an obstacle course, food booths and more.

On Sunday April 21, 2013, visitors can expect to start their day with a Camp Gladiator Fitness Camp or a 5K Heroes Run on Camp Mabry. Registration for the 5K is scheduled to begin at 7 a.m., with the race start time set for 8 a.m., Organized and hosted by Luke's Locker, the cost to participate in the race is \$30 per person with proceeds benefitting Honor Flight Austin, the Texas Military Forces Historical Foundation, and Hope for Heroes. For registration information, visit: <https://runsignup.com/race/tx/austin/americanheroes5k>.

For complete information, or to download a copy of the event schedule and map visit the Texas Military Forces Website at [www.txmf.us](http://www.txmf.us).

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*The mission of the Texas Military Forces (TXMF) is to provide the Governor and the President with ready and trained forces in support of the citizens of Texas and State and Federal civil/military authorities at home and abroad.*

*The Texas Military Forces are commanded by the Adjutant General of Texas, the state's senior military official appointed by the governor, and is comprised of the Adjutant General's Department, the Texas Army National Guard (TXARNG), the Texas Air National Guard (TXANG), the Texas State Guard (TXSG) and the Domestic Operations Command (DOMOPS).*

*For more information about the Texas Military Forces visit our Website at [www.txmf.us](http://www.txmf.us).*