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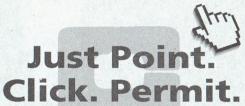
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(Top) Family members to the 2014 Muster honorees light candles as the names are called. (Bottom) The Ross Volunteer Firing Squad fires three volleys of seven shots during the 2014 Muster ceremony.

Campus Muster to honor 119 Aggies

Evening ceremony will feature speaker Rep. Will Hurd

By John Rangel

The 2015 campus Muster ceremony will take place in Reed Arena at 7 p.m. Tuesday to honor members of the Aggie family who have died in the past year.

The Reed Arena Muster Ceremony will end campus Muster's daylong activities, which start with a flag raising ceremony at sunrise and include a Camaraderie Barbecue from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. at Kyle Field's Northern Plaza, Tickets are sold on site and at campus dining facilities, and may be purchased with Dining Dollars. The Class of 1965 has returned to campus as the 50-year reunion class.

The 2015 Muster Speaker is Rep. Will Hurd, who was Texas A&M's student body president at the time of the 1999 Bonfire Collapse. His remarks are

followed by the Roll Call for the Absent, which lists the name of every local Aggie who has died in the past year as well as all missing members of the 50year reunion class. After Roll Call the Ross Volunteer Firing Squad will fire three volleys of seven shots, then Silver Taps will be played.

Personal effects of many of the former students honored at Muster are on display at the Muster Reflections Display in the MSC Flag Room to give all visitors a chance to see how those honored lived as Aggies. The display opened Friday and will close at 1 p.m.

Parking in Lots 100, 74, 61 and West Campus Garage will be free from 5 p.m. to midnight Tuesday evening.

Maria Quiros, 2015 Muster committee chair and supply chain management senior, said as of Monday afternoon the 2015 Roll Call will include 119 names, 11 of whom were current students and 30 of whom were Class of 1965 members. About 12,000 people are expected

to attend Campus Muster. Quiros said she encourages students to arrive early, around 6:15-6:30 p.m.

Quiros said it is important for students in attendance to remember Muster Ceremony etiquette, particularly to say "here" when a member of their class year is called.

"I'd really urge people to say 'here' when those names [of current class years] are called, as well as obviously anyone they knew personally. I think that's something really neat for the families of the current students to experience hearing a lot of different voices coming from the crowd," Quiros said. "It's a small moment in the whole ceremony that people [sometimes] forget to do, but extremely powerful when people are able to say 'here' for members of their class."

Campus Muster is the largest of over 400 registered Musters worldwide, according to the Texas A&M Traditions Council website.

EDITORIAL BOARD

Stand for the fallen, but remember what they stood for'

ore than 100 Aggies will be honored at Tuesday's Muster ceremony. Many of their stories are long and fruitful; some were cut tragically short. It is hard to find joy in a life lost, but Muster calls the Aggie family to do just that — to not only mourn those who will never walk campus again, but to celebrate the marks they left behind.

Treat 2015 Muster with reverence, but approach it with an eye for the joyous. Attend the Camaraderie Barbecue with friends and trade Good Bull stories with a member of the Class of 1965. Say "Howdy" to a campus visitor and strike a conversation. Visit the Muster Reflections Display and see how beautiful a life can be when lived fully.

It is easy to lump Muster and Silver Taps together as two traditions with the same emphasis, but on different scales. Both remember the fallen and both are solemn. But Muster is different. Silver Taps is a time to honor and to grieve; Muster is a time to reflect and to remember. It is a reminder that we are all members of the Aggie family — for Muster,

they are "here."

Stand for the fallen, but remember what they stood for. A loved one lost is tragic, but as the 2015 Muster quote reads, "Greater than sadness is the celebration of what they have meant to us and why we answer 'here."

The Battalion's editorial opinion is determined by its Board of Opinion, with the editor in chief having final responsibility.

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