

FORT BLISS



GARRISON COMMAND NEWSLETTER VOL. 3

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DAYLEY'S UPDATE...

COL. BRANT V. DAYLEY
Garrison Commander

September was a great month for Fort Bliss and the Garrison. We briefly hosted NASA's space shuttle Endeavour as the Boeing 747-100 carrying it stopped here to refuel before continuing to the California Science Center where the decommissioned craft will be on display for the public. Over its career, Endeavour spent almost 300 days in space and flew more than 20 missions. It was an honor to see the ending of such a historic career.

While we saw witness to the end of NASA's proud space shuttle program, we also looked to the future to prepare for what lies ahead of us here at Fort Bliss.

To that end, Garrison hosted a small group of experts to work with some of our team members and develop a master plan for the long-range future of West Bliss. The venture was such a success we are looking to do the same sort of assessments for East Bliss and our space in New Mexico.

The team worked with a vision "to leverage our cavalry history to create a sustainable oasis in the desert with connected open space, multi-use efficient development and assessable streets."

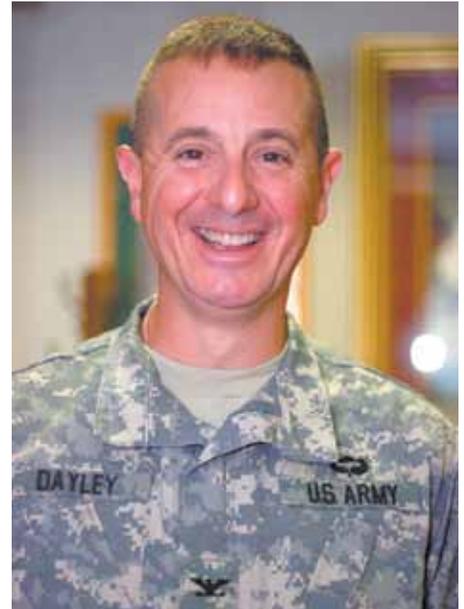
Keeping in mind both the future re-

quirements of Fort Bliss and the Department of Defense's new Unified Facilities Criteria policy, they came up with a plan that takes us beyond the next 20 years. The plan is flexible and adjusts for different scenarios taking us from maximum development all the way to a financial climate of limited to no funding.

They looked not only at how we can best provides services to our Soldiers and families, but also how we can make sure our employees enjoy a pleasant and safe work environment. For example, many of us work in gorgeous and historic buildings, some of them may not survive the next 20 years and many of them will need extensive renovations. The team was able to come up with options for us ranging from renovation to possible consolidation and relocation of offices.

Working on this development plan was not just insightful but a godsend. It takes the ideas we started with and fills them out. Where we were originally looking at four quadrants, this takes them to eight and allows us to really focus a lot of attention and energy to each individual area.

I want to thank everyone who participated. I have a great fondness for Fort Bliss, having spent much of my time



Col. Brant V. Dayley

here, both as a boy and a Soldier working and raising my own family, and want to do the best for its future. The work done during this conference will ensure the legacy we leave to this installation is an exceptional and sustainable one.

NON-RATED CREW MEMBER MANNED MODULE (NCM3)

DON COLYER
DPTMS -Training Support Center

Recently, Fort Bliss received a temporary loan of the Non-rated Crew Member Manned Module for two months to assist in better preparing 1st Combat Aviation Brigade's CH-47 Chinook and UH-60 Blackhawk aircraft crewmen in certain critical tasks prior to deployment. This simulator, when combined with the Aviation Combined Arms Tactical Trainer, can provide a dynamic 360 degree collective training environment for helicopter pilots and crewmen to train together or individually.

The NCM3 provides a very realistic train as you fight capability that immerses crewmen in world-wide contemporary environments that can also integrate and interact with ground elements as well. The trainer gives crewmen the ability to train and master perishable critical tasks such as gunnery from a UH-60 Blackhawk and hoist and sling load operations from a simulated CH-47 Chinook without using high operations tempo dollars needed to operate actual aircraft.



COURTESY PHOTO

Soldiers train as right and left side UH-60 door gunners using a helmet-mounted display.

FORT BLISS OPEND NEW SOLDIER RESILIENCE AND READINESS CENTER

CLAUDIA P. ROBERTO
DoMaD Public Affairs

First Armored Division and Fort Bliss commanding general Maj. Gen. Dana J. H. Pittard and his wife Lucille joined distinguished leaders of William Beaumont Army Medical Center to help open the newly renovated Soldier Resilience and Readiness Center Aug. 30.

Col. Eric T. Judkins, director of Mobilization and Deployment, made the opening remarks during the SRRC's ribbon-cutting ceremony.

Special guest speaker Brig. Gen. Dennis D. Doyle, commander of WBAMC and deputy commanding general for readiness, said it was his "honor to represent Major General Pittard and Team Bliss during this ceremony today, and what a great day it is for our nation's largest power-projection platform."

The newly remodeled 77,000-square-foot facility on main post in Bldg. 60 consolidates the administrative and medical sections of the SRRC, making it a "one-stop shop" for unit readiness.

"The deployment of our military men and women requires unit readiness to be at the highest level," said Doyle. "The ability of the three Army components – active, Reserve and National Guard – to quickly and efficiently mobilize is vital for our national security.

With a combined staff of military and civilians dedicated to taking care of Soldiers, the new facility can process between 500 to 600 Soldiers a day. The staff works long hours, weekends and even holidays to process military personnel deploying, redeploying, completing quarterly readiness, mobilizing and demobilizing. The SRRC not only processes Army but Navy, Air Force and civilian personnel deploying overseas as well.

Funding for the facility was a collaborative effort between 1st Armored Division, Fort Bliss Garrison Command, WBAMC, and the Directorate of Mobilization and Deployment. Their combined efforts and commitment ensured completion of the facility for efficient Soldier resilience and readiness processing.

Lt. Col. Murray Kramer, officer in charge of 7222nd Medical Support Detachment, currently operating the medical section of the SRRC, said his Soldiers worked diligent hours and on weekends to get the facility up and running. He said they also worked hard to physically construct the medical exam

rooms and paint offices to make the building more comfortable and welcoming.

"Soldiers are not here to 'practice' mobilizing and demobilizing," said Lt. Col. Douglas M. Porter, officer in charge of the SRRC. "They are here to train. It's our job to make sure they are fit to fight."

The SRRC ensures Soldiers are administratively and medically prepared for deployment and mobilization. Personnel and finance records are reviewed, legal assistance is available, and dependent and beneficiary information is verified, all to provide security for the Soldier and their family. Initial briefings are designed to be straightforward, concise and informative.

Staff members assist Soldiers throughout the process and decrease bottle necks as much as possible by controlling the flow of Soldiers to other sections with lesser wait times. The administrative portion can be completed in as quickly as 30 minutes to two and a half hours per Soldier.

The medical section conducts comprehensive reviews of medical records, hearing and vision exams, medical evaluations, and provides immunizations and behavioral health screening of Soldiers preparing for and returning

from deployment. Additionally, the SRRC is the only place at Fort Bliss where Soldiers can update their Post Deployment Health Reassessment, a 90-day re-evaluation after deployment to ensure there are no hidden injuries and address any other medical issues that may have appeared.

For National Guard and Reserve Soldiers, the SRRC strives to assist with the transition from active duty to civilian life by ensuring that each and every Soldier is taken care of. The SRRC provides Veterans Affairs assistance, whose helpful and knowledgeable staff briefs Soldiers on their benefits and rights after mobilization.

The SRRC has a streamlined process designed to get Soldiers in and out in the most efficient and timely manner while ensuring accurate completion to standard. Compared to other mobilization sites where Soldier readiness processing can take up to three days to complete, the Fort Bliss SRRC gets it done in one day.

As Doyle said, "the SRRC is yet another example of the Army and Team Bliss' commitment to care for Soldiers and families."



CLAUDIA P. ROBERTO / DoMaD Public Affairs

Sgt. 1st Class Sergio Cortez, noncommissioned officer in charge of the 7222nd Medical Support Detachment, explains to Maj. Gen. Dana J. H. Pittard, 1st Armored Division and Fort Bliss commanding general, and visitors about the medical capabilities provided in the new Soldier Resilience and Readiness Center here to take care of Soldiers and ensure they are medically deployable.



COURTESY PHOTO

The 1st Armored Division's Division Tactical Center set up behind the Mission Training Complex.



1AD DIVISION EXERCISE AT THE MISSION TRAINING COMPLEX

DAVID HIEATT
DPTMS - Mission Training Complex

In preparation for deployment, the 1st Armored Division conducted a full-spectrum exercise at the mission training complex from September 4 through September 22. The exercise consisted of the Division Tactical Center set up behind the Mission Training Complex and the 1st Brigade Combat Team, 1st Armored Division's Tactical Operations Center set up on the TOC pad at the MTC. The units supporting the brigade were set up in the areas surrounding the MTC. The 212th Fires Brigade, 1st Armored Division TOC set up at the Simulation Center and linked into the exercise via fiber cable between the facilities.

The exercise was supported by Operations Group B and Operations Group F from Fort Leavenworth, KS with over 250 people sent down from the installation to assist. The exercise provided valuable training for almost 2,000 Soldiers prior to deployment and ran 24 hours a day providing realistic training. The 1AD Soldiers were placed in the operational environment they will be deploying to, with real world maps and incidents based on lessons learned from our overseas operations. They were able to use their tactical equipment simulated by computer simulations generated in the Tech Control room at the MTC.

The FSX provides advanced collective training for essential war planning, warfighting and decision making skills

at Echelons Above Brigade, and Brigade headquarters and staff in accordance with Army Mission Training Plan standards. The training simulates command and control processes using a confederation of distributed simulation models with WARSIM at its core. The simulation is enhanced by supervised control and response cells which incorporate realistic role playing based on downrange experience.

Automated workstations manned by Virtual Warriors are used to transfer orders, directives, specific tasks, and implied tasks into simulation inputs needed

to fight the battle and sustain the force. They represent lower, higher, and adjacent headquarters, maneuver enhancement, protection support, and sustainment. The simulation is interpreted, and appropriate role playing is applied by the Virtual Warriors and/or the controller in the workcell, then results are fed back to the appropriate unit TOC via doctrinal communications per the unit's Tactical Standing Operating Procedures.

The exercise was very successful and helped to make our 1AD Soldiers the best in the world, trained and ready to defend freedom any time, in where.



COURTESY PHOTO

1st Brigade Combat Team, 1st Armored Division set their Tactical Operations Center up on the TOC pad outside the Mission Training Complex.

OROGRANDE

ED ROBBS

Installation Range Office

Range 88, a Digital Multipurpose Range Complex, will soon be opening at the Fort Bliss Training Center, Orogrande Range Complex. This range provides a live, virtual, constructive, and tactical gunnery complex. It's purpose is to train and test Armor, Infantry, Aviation, Stryker, unstabilized platforms and convoy live fire crews, sections, squads, and platoons on skills necessary to detect, identify, engage, and defeat stationary and moving infantry and armor targets in a tactical array. The range also supports dismounted infantry squad and platoon tactical live-fire operations either independently of, or simultaneously with, supporting vehicles and company combined arms live-fire exercises. The range has six lanes, moving and stationary armor targets, moving and stationary infantry targets, facades, bunkers, trenches, and two urban clusters all contained within a 1.5 kilometer by 8 kilometer box.

The complex uses state-of-the-art technology driven by the Digital Range Training System software. This tremendously expands the capability of commanders to capture audio and video of crew commands and actions while conducting gunnery. The system captures the orientation of the main gun-tube and the weapons systems on combat vehicles by a standalone camera system which records the movements of both the vehicles and soldiers. The technology includes an excellent After Action Review capability for playback in the AAR facility and includes a recorded take home package for further review at home station.

It will offer realistic training scenarios associated with live fire gunnery. This range will allow Soldiers to hone and develop the skills necessary to defeat our country's enemies and protect the freedoms that we as a nation enjoy.

TEAM BLISS HUNTING

BRIAN LOCKE
DPW - Environmental Division

GENERAL INFORMATION

Fort Bliss consists of approximately 1.12 million acres of land of which 695,000 acres are available for hunting when not in use for military training. Fort Bliss spans the New Mexico-Texas border with 89% falling within New Mexico. The installation's desert scrublands, mesa grasslands and woodlands support a wide variety of wildlife. Hunting opportunities are available in both the New Mexico and Texas portions. The desert conditions do limit populations but the limited opportunities provide quality hunting.

BIG GAME

Mule deer, pronghorn antelope, elk, javelina, Barbary sheep and oryx, may be hunted on Fort Bliss. Most big game hunting opportunities are allocated by the draw system conducted by the New Mexico Department of Game and Fish (NMDGF). The NMDGF deadline to apply for these hunts on Fort Bliss is usually the last week of March for hunts occurring the following fall and winter.

A limited mule deer and Barbary Sheep hunting opportunity occurs on the Texas portion of the installation. Special draws are held at the Fort Bliss Rod and Gun Club in November for a December hunt.

SMALL GAME, FURBEARERS, NONGAME

Migratory and upland game birds including dove and quail are found throughout the installation. Limited waterfowl hunting sometimes occurs on playa lakes and earthen tanks when there has been adequate summer rainfall. In addition to game birds, coyote, fox, rabbit, badger, bobcat, and other furbearers and nongame mammals can be hunted on both the New Mexico and Texas portions of Fort Bliss.

See State websites for specific seasons and bag limits: 1) NMDGF: HYPERLINK "<http://www.wildlife.state.nm.us>" www.wildlife.state.nm.us ; and 2)

TX Parks and Wildlife Dept: HYPERLINK "<http://www.tpwd.state.tx.us>" www.tpwd.state.tx.us

MILITARY ONLY HUNTS

Current opportunities include NM big game draw hunts for deer, elk, antelope, javelina, Barbary sheep and oryx. These

hunts take place on McGregor Range (NM Game Management Unit (GMU) 28) and are open only to active duty military members. In addition, there is a population management oryx hunt opportunity available to active duty US military members permanently assigned to Fort Bliss. This hunt occurs on Doña Ana Range. Active duty US military members permanently assigned to Fort Bliss pay resident fees for these hunts. Refer to the NMDGF website and Big Game Rules & Information booklet for application procedures.

Hunting on Fort Bliss is open to US citizens and foreign military members with opportunities to hunt small and big game.

Fort Bliss requires each hunter to obtain a Fort Bliss Training Complex (FBTC) Access Permit validated for hunting, a FB Weapon Registration, a State-approved Hunter Education/Safety card and the appropriate hunting licenses, permits, tags and stamps required by New Mexico (NM)/Texas (TX).

Each adult must possess their own FBTC Access Permit. Minors must be listed on an adult's pass. All licensed hunters, regardless of age, and adults supervising youth hunters, must provide proof of passing a state-approved (any U.S. State) hunter safety course before you can obtain an Access Permit validated for hunting on Fort Bliss. Big game hunters and accompanying non-hunters must wear 144 square inches of hunter orange on each their chest and back plus a hunter orange hat.

FBTC Access Permit, Vehicle Pass and Weapon Registration are available at the Robert E. Lee Pass Gate (W of Airway Blvd/Airport Rd intersection, 915-568-3215 and the Chaffee Pass Gate (on Chaffee Rd S of Fred Wilson Ave), 915-568-6853.

Hunters hunting in the FBTC must comply with all FBTC regulations including calling Range Control (915-569-9240) when entering and leaving the FBTC and reporting their permit number.

Legal sporting arms: shotguns and bow. Rifles are only allowed during specific big game draw hunts.

For more information please email Brian Locke at brian.a.locke.civ@mail.mil or visit <https://imcom2.bliss.army.mil/DPWE/wildlife/hunting/default.aspx>.



NORWEGIAN NIKE VETERANS VISIT FORT BLISS

DONITA KELLEY
Garrison Public Affairs

From 1957 to 1959, more than 1,000 Norwegian Soldiers received operational and technical training on the Nike missile systems here. Eleven of those Soldiers, along with some of their family members, returned to Fort Bliss Sept. 5 and were able to learn how air defense has developed since the late 1950s.

Highlights of their visit included a stop at the Fort Bliss National Cemetery, visiting a Patriot training site and their old barracks.

Fort Bliss National Cemetery Director Andrew D. Matthews and Foreman

Scott Morrill explained to visitors the history of the cemetery and then placed a wreath of red, white and blue flowers – representing both American and Norwegian national colors – to honor fallen servicemembers in front of the five military seals in the Fort Bliss National Cemetery.

The Soldiers of 1st Battalion, 43rd Air Defense Artillery, 11th ADA Brigade, performed hosting duties.

B Battery explained what a Patriot missile site looks like in a field environment and showed the group how Soldiers live and work in the field.

The tour ended with a visit to E Bat-

tery's barracks, which happened to be the same barracks in which some of the Norwegians lived in the late 1950s. First Sgt. Christopher Moreno, E Btry. first sergeant, led the tour through the building into the day room and billeting. When they lived in the building, it was an open-bay barracks with 48 men in each room and it was at the edge of the desert.

The Norwegian Nike Veterans Society members and their families said they were appreciative of all they saw while at Fort Bliss. The remainder of the week was spent visiting several area attractions.



SGT. JACOBY M. DAVIS / 32nd AAMDC Public Affairs

First Sgt. James L. Brandon, first sergeant of B Battery, 1st Battalion, 43rd Air Defense Artillery, 11th ADA Brigade, describes what the Patriot missile site looks like in a field environment for the members of the Norwegian Nike Veteran Society Sept. 5 at Tobin Wells Training Area.

OKTOBERFEST CELEBRATION



PHOTOS BY SGT. JACOBY M. DAVIS / 32nd AAMDC Public Affairs

Brig. Gen. James Dickinson, commanding general of 32nd Army Air and Missile Defense Command, and his wife Angie Dickinson stand with Col. Volker Sammans, commandant of the German Air Force Air Defense Center here, and the original German Brass Band Sept. 14 at West Fort Bliss before the opening ceremony of the Oktoberfest festivities. The German Air Force Air Defense Center and the 32nd AAMDC boast a unique relationship as "Partners in Air Defense," often conducting joint live-fire exercises and other types of training together.



Brig. Gen. James H. Dickinson, commanding general of the 32nd Army Air and Missile Defense Command, gives a speech during the Oktoberfest celebrations Sept. 14 at West Fort Bliss. In his speech, Dickinson said the celebration reaffirmed the strong bond the German armed forces serving at Fort Bliss have forged with the American military, and that it signified many more years of serving closely together.



The original German Brass Band plays on a modified Patriot missile launcher in front of the home of Brig. Gen. James Dickinson, commanding general of 32nd Army Air and Missile Defense Command Sept. 14 while the drivers, both members of the German Air Force, stand waiting to transport them to the next event. The home was their first stop before escorting Dickinson, his wife, Angie, and Col. Volker Sammans, commandant of the German Air Force Air Defense Center here, in a second modified launcher to the Oktoberfest festivities on post.

CLAUDIA P. ROBERTO / DoMaD Public Affairs

Rosemare Schemmel, “post mom,” sends off Soldiers of 4th Brigade Combat Team, 1st Armored Division, at Biggs Army Airfield Aug. 28.



“POST MOM”

CLAUDIA P. ROBERTO
DoMaD Public Affairs

A volunteer is a person who willingly offers himself or herself for a service or duty without compensation. At Fort Bliss, volunteers support and strengthen the Army mission by offering their time and commitment to the organization of their choice. Because of their willingness and compassion, volunteers are the strength and heart of the organizations they serve. They help improve the quality of life for many military organizations.

Rosemary Schemmel has been a volunteer with the Directorate of Mobilization and Deployment for four years. Her self-nominated name “post mom” is how she is known by the DoMaD staff and the thousands of Guard and Reserve Soldiers she welcomes home and sends off to deployment at Biggs Army Airfield.

Schemmel, a retired nurse and daughter of a retired lieutenant colonel, lived in El Paso from 1955 to 1960 when her father was stationed at Fort Bliss. Born and raised in the Army, she is accustomed to the military lifestyle. Her daughter, Capt. Paula J. Schemmel, who is the youngest child out of six, was stationed at Fort Bliss in 2005 with 4th Brigade Combat Team, 1st Cavalry Division. So Schemmel left her hometown of Minster, Ohio, and moved back to El Paso in 2005 to be with her homesick daughter.

As a daughter and mother of a Soldier, she knows the personal sacrifice and heartache that families endure while-

their loved ones are deployed. After her daughter’s first deployment to Iraq, she was assigned to the rear detachment of the 4th BCT, 1st Cav. Div., and one of her main jobs was to take care of all their redeploying flights. Schemmel became involved by going with her daughter to Biggs Army Airfield and welcoming the rest of the BCT home.

After her daughter left Fort Bliss, Schemmel decided to stay in El Paso. She said she missed doing those missions at Biggs Army Airfield. She got in touch with the Mobilization and Deployment Brigade in 2008, and they were happy to have her on the team supporting all the mobilizing and demobilizing troops at Biggs.

Alongside the DoMaD team, Schemmel is at Biggs many hours of the day, on weekends and holidays, welcoming Guard, Reserve and active-duty Soldiers and Sailors back from their long deployments. She stands with the DoMaD command team in a line as Soldiers disembark the plane proudly wearing her “MOM” nametag on her white vest decorated with her daughter’s Army ribbons. She greets every Soldier and shakes every hand with a smile.

Watching the Soldiers get off the plane, they just kind of drag along, looking down at the ground, but when they see “MOM” amid the line of green-suited Soldiers, they perk up and smile.

“I care, and I want to be here,” said Schemmel. “I’m a mom, and they’re my

kids. It’s important to me to be there.”

She is at almost every outgoing and incoming flight for every unit that goes through Biggs.

Aside from supporting the troops at Biggs, Schemmel has been involved with the Red Cross at William Beaumont Army Medical Center for three years. She drives a shuttle helping Soldiers and their family members to and from the parking lot and hospital entrance. She is also a member of the Military Council of Catholic Women at Fort Bliss, a social group that does service projects for different organizations. Last year, they assisted Sierra Providence Hospital’s “Meals on Wheels” program delivering hot meals to patients who are unable to cook for themselves. At the YMCA on Fred Wilson Avenue she helps at the day care by feeding and rocking babies. She also volunteers at the Nazareth Hall Nursing Center in El Paso where she helps with bingo. Because of all her generous volunteer work, Schemmel was named the Fort Bliss Volunteer of the Year for the Mobilization and Deployment Brigade in 2010.

Other than her love for volunteering, Schemmel enjoys reading and arts and crafts. She enjoys watching television and being in the company of her friends.

To learn how to become a volunteer at Fort Bliss, log onto the Family and Morale, Welfare and Recreation page on the Team Bliss website or visit www.blissmwr.com/volunteer/.

THINGS TO DO:

UPCOMING EVENTS AND ACTIVITIES

CENHIGH GROUND MOVIE SCREENING

The screening for High Ground, a documentary highlighting 11 veterans returning from operations in Iraq/Afghanistan and a Gold Star mother who join an expedition to climb the 20,000-foot Himalayan giant Mount Lobuche, is set for Oct. 4 at the Grand Theatre at Freedom Crossing. The documentary is an attempt to help Soldiers and leaders become aware of the challenges presented by post-traumatic stress disorder and traumatic brain injury. It is expected that viewers will recognize challenges and shortcomings and seek help during the healing process if needed. The Grand Theatre will have two screenings of the film Oct. 4: 3 p.m. and 5:30 p.m. The 3 p.m. showing is for Warrior Transition Battalion Soldiers, commanders and command sergeants major. The 5:30 p.m. showing is open viewing. The maximum capacity at the theater is 300. To learn more, call 744-8432.

FALL HARVEST FESTIVAL

La Viña winery presents its Fall Harvest Festival Saturday, October 13th and Sunday, October 14th, 2012 from noon to 7 p.m. Over 20 wines will be available for tasting and purchase. Adult admission to the festival is \$15 and includes a souvenir glass and a choice of 9 wines or a glass of wine. There is a \$5 admission for 12-20 years of age and those under the age of 12 will be admitted free. From I-10, take the Vinton Exit (#2 in Texas) turn West on Vinton road, approximately 4 miles to

Highway 28, then right 1 mile to the winery, 4201 S. Highway 28, La Union NM. Parking and entrance to the festival is at the back of the winery. Please do not park on Highway 28. No pets or picnic baskets, please. There is an ATM on premise.

AMIGO AIRSHO

Mark your calendars! The 2012 Amigo Airsho flies into town Oct. 20-21. The Air Force's Thunderbirds and the Army's Golden Knights return to dazzle El Pasoans with their aerobatic moves. Also featured this year are Tim Weber, Dan Buchanan, Kyle Franklin, Matt Younkin, Skip Stewart, John Mohr, and John Klatt. So don't miss the action at the Amigo Airsho on Biggs Army Airfield. Gates open to the public from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Tickets will be available at ITR locations on Fort Bliss starting Sep. 7. Once again, all Soldiers are free and their free tickets are available at ITR. This includes active duty, retired military and active duty international military. Family members can purchase military discounted tickets at ITR through Oct. 20. Adult tickets are \$8 each and children age 6-11 are \$6 each. Children five years and younger are admitted free of charge. Tickets will be available at the Airsho entrance gates, however, military discounted tickets for adults and children are \$10 each. For locations and hours of operation for ITR offices or for information concerning tickets, please call the ITR offices, 568-7506, the ITR outlet, 569-6446, or visit their website at <http://www.blissmwr.com/itr/>. For more information about the Amigo Airsho, visit www.amigoairsho.org or call 562-6446.

ARMY DAYS

Fort Bliss officials are coordinating Army Days, an open house event, at Biggs Army Airfield, Oct. 20-21. Event is free and open to the public from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. The event features the Soldiers and equipment of the units assigned to Fort Bliss. The public will be able to talk to Soldiers and learn more about what they do, as well as get up-close with their equipment, including the Abrams Tank, Stryker Vehicle, MAT-V MRAP, and the Patriot Launcher. Be sure to take advantage of this opportunity to meet with the Soldiers of Fort Bliss to learn about the equipment they use in support of this nation. For more information, call the Garrison Public Affairs Office, 568-4623.

MY EL PASO

The 1st Armored Division and Fort Bliss commanding general, Maj. Gen. Dana J. H. Pittard, is joining Maj. Gen. Heidi V. Brown, the director of test for the Missile Defense Agency, for "My El Paso," Tom Lea Month's keynote event starting at 6 p.m. Oct. 12 at the Plaza Theatre, 125 Pioneer Plaza. Cost is \$35, and \$10 from each ticket sold will benefit the Fort Bliss Warrior Transition Battalion. To learn more, call 534-0605.

