

10TH MOUNTAIN LIFE

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Welcome to 10th Mountain Life, where you'll find soldier shoutouts, photos of Fort Drum events, memories from post and more.

To recognize your favorite soldier or share photos, email news@wdt.net with subject "10th Mountain Life"

From right: Third graders John Carr, Scott Hyde and Joseph Trombley watch the complicated gauges and controls of an Army UH-1 "Huey" helicopter from Fort Drum that landed on the fields of General Brown Central School for a brief visit one morning in September 1984. From the Watertown Daily Times Archive



HISTORIC DRUM



Above and below: Soldiers from the 1st Brigade Combat Team conduct rail load operations on Jan. 24, 2019, at the Fort Drum rail yard to prepare for deployment to the Joint Readiness Training Center at Fort Polk, Louisiana. Photos by Sgt. Keegan Costello/U.S. Army

ON THIS DAY



OUT AND ABOUT

■ The 10th Mountain Division helped the Buffalo Bills and their fans say goodbye to Highmark Stadium on Jan. 4. The flyover involved crews for two Blackhawk helicopters, one Chinook and one Apache helicopter. The Buffalo Bills extended the flyover opportunity to the 10th Mountain Division as part of its celebration of the final game to occur at Highmark Stadium. The Bills won their final game at the stadium — 35 to 8 over the New York Jets. The Bills played the first game at the Orchard Park site on Aug. 17, 1973, in what was then called Rich Stadium. This year marked the final season at what is now called Highmark Stadium.

■ The New York State Assembly recently honored the 10th Light Support Battalion, Challenger Company, at Fort Drum with a citation recognizing the unit's courage, sacrifice, and performance during deployment and their lasting impact at home. The citation was presented by Assemblyman Scott A. Gray. **Read more about the honor next week.**

SOLDIER OF THE MONTH

Sgt. Rocio Ceja is our 10th Mountain Division's soldier of the month. She was chosen for her efforts on ARSTRUC and her exceptional performance at the Basic Leader Course (BLC). Her subject matter expertise and personal drive led to hundreds of processed HR actions critical to DIVARTY's ARSTRUC transition. In addition, she graduated BLC on the Commandant's List and received the class Superior Writing Award.

HOW WOULD YOU DEFINE YOUR JOB?

As a 42A, my job is characterized by change. I do my best to keep my Battalion informed on the best course of action for the types of requests/processing they are most likely to submit for so we "get it right" the first time. We have demanding training cycles, and I understand the time other Soldiers take out of their day to visit the S1. My role in support is to prevent as many hiccups as possible.

NAME: Rocio Ceja

AGE: 26

RANK: Sergeant

HOMETOWN: Coachella, California

YEARS IN SERVICE: 2

WHAT MAKES FORT DRUM HOME?

Fort Drum is home because of the people and the community. I have been fortunate enough to have met motivated Soldiers that inspire me to be the best I can. The local community is also very supportive of Fort Drum. Growing up in the desert, I am out of my element here in Drum. But when I get invitations to go snowboarding or watch hockey games it's not so cold when I'm with friends.

Soldier of the Month is a collaboration with the Fort Drum Garrison Public Affairs Office.



Sgt. Rocio Ceja

Photo courtesy of the 10th Mountain Division