

10TH MOUNTAIN LIFE

MONTH OF THE MILITARY CHILD

HISTORIC DRUM



Above: On April 14, Christopher Zimmer, deputy to the garrison commander, visited Fort Drum's School Age Center for a ceremony to proclaim April the Month of the Military Child. There are more than 1.1 million military-connected children in the U.S., a majority of whom are of school age. These children often attend more than six to nine schools, experiencing more than five moves, throughout their education journey. Former U.S. Secretary of Defense Caspar Weinberger first designated April as the Month of the Military Child in 1986, acknowledging the significant role military-connected students have in our communities. In 2011, the University of New Hampshire Cooperative Extension Military Youth and Family Program started the "Purple Up! for Military Kids" as a way for communities to support military children for their strength and sacrifice. On a designated day during the Month of the Military Child, communities throughout each state join together and wear purple to honor military children. Purple is a combination of Army green, Marine Corps red, Coast Guard, Air Force, Space Force, and Navy blue; it is the appropriate color to represent military children from all branches. Fort Drum photo



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10th Mountain Life features 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"

Above right: In May 1967, the 413th Quartermaster battalion, Schenectady and Albany, delivered almost a thousand loaves of bread to the St. Patrick's Children's home, Jefferson County Children's home and Salvation Army. The bread was baked in field ovens set up during the unit's two-week training period at Camp Drum. From left, front, are Staff Sgt. Paul A. Tennant, Company B bakery chef; Dolores Holder of the county children's home; middle, Sgt. Thomas A. Meehan, Company A bakery chief; Mrs. Eugene Nicholl and Mrs. Grace Pitkin of the home staff; back, First Lieut. Fred C. Mahnken, Company A supply platoon leader; Mrs. Sylvia Davis and Mrs. Madeline Rathbun, also of the home staff. Watertown Daily Times

OUT AND ABOUT

■ Advocate Drum reports that Fort Drum's total 2025 impact on the local economy is \$2.48 billion, which includes \$2 billion in direct spending, plus \$482 million in additional economic activity in Jefferson, Lewis and St. Lawrence counties.

■ Fort Drum Family and Morale, Welfare and Recreation's Out of Breath Hiking Club Challenge calls on participants to tackle some of the best peaks and trails New York has to offer. The challenge features a progressive series of 12 hikes, with elevation gains ranging from 150 to more than 3,300 feet, between May and September.



Hosted by the 10th Mountain Division this week, the 18th Airborne Corps Best Squad Competition tests physical endurance, tactical proficiency, and mental toughness while reinforcing what makes our force lethal — disciplined, cohesive teams built on trust and resilience. From day one to the final event, every challenge reflects our commitment to warfighting readiness, transformation, and the people who make it possible. 10th Mountain Division photo

Find more Best Squad photos in next weekend's 10th Mountain Life.