

# **CSM Chavez speaks at Hispanic Heritage Observance**

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Music, colors and dancing filled the Letort View Community Center Sept. 22 as Carlisle Barracks celebrated National Hispanic Heritage Month.

The event celebrated the culture and contributions of the 26 million Americans of Hispanic origin. Of new Soldiers, 11 percent are Hispanic, and 9 have earned the rank of General, said Lt. Col. Janet Holliday, garrison commander.

Command Sgt. Maj. Daniel Chavez, Installation Management Command Northeast Region Command, was the keynote speaker for the event.

"I am proud to be a Soldier, noncommissioned officer and Hispanic American serving in this highest enlisted position," he said. "Hispanic Americans have always been a part of this country, and have pursued their dreams of freedom here. Today and this month, we honor the Hispanic Americans who have come to this country in search of a better life."

He spoke about the contributions of Hispanic Americans to the country.

"We benefit from their rich culture. It has made America's fabric strong," he said. "Hispanics have shown their loyalty to the United States through their continued military service, answering the call of duty. They are fighting overseas and protecting the homeland."