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**OVERNIGHT RESPITE OPPORTUNITY!!**  
**MCS is partnering with the Boy Scouts Camp in Russell to offer two weekends of overnight respite in September and October, for individuals 18 years and older. Participants and staff will be staying together in a cabin for two nights, and will have access to all the exciting activities the camp offers including rock climbing, hiking, archery, black-smithing, fishing, and much more. Please watch for more information**



**COMING SOON!!**

**HIGHLIGHT**

It's a pleasure for us to spotlight Artsiom in this issue's Highlight. Artsiom takes great pride in helping his mother create beautiful dolls and stuffed animals like those featured in the photo below. Artsiom's mother, Natalia, relies on Artsiom's help to pick out fabric, shop for supplies, and create the finished product. Natalia calls him her "helper" and says he's very happy when crafting these beautiful stuffed dolls and animals. If you'd like to purchase one of Artsiom's and Natalia's creations, you can contact MCS Service Navigator, Syuzanna, at 782-2500 ext. 402.



**Meet the Team...**



**Nilda Reyes**

Nilda has been with MCS for 27 years. She began her career as a relief staff and soon started working in the WEP Program as a Navigator. Nilda also created the original Hispanic Transition Project.

The best part of her job, according to Nilda, is helping our families and seeing them through difficult times as well as all the good times.

Nilda has been married to Manuel for 48 years, and has 3 sons, Juan, Angel, Carlos, and a daughter, Tita. She is also raising her granddaughter, Destiny. She has 4 other granddaughters, 4 grandsons, and a dog named Scottie. She loves cooking (and we love it when she cooks!) and crocheting. Nilda is an invaluable member of the MCS Family Support team.



Visit our website at [mcsnet.org](http://mcsnet.org)

Like us on Facebook:  
[www.facebook.com/MCSofthePioneerValley](https://www.facebook.com/MCSofthePioneerValley)

Follow us on Instagram:

<https://instagram.com/multiculturalcommunityservices?igshid=18r72kajxju05>



### Meet this issue's pet:

Thor is a 7-year-old Yellow Lab who was adopted by one of our Adult Service Navigators, Maggie Serrano, and her husband Mingo. Thor was appropriately given the name of a Superhero, although he has many aliases such as Thor-burger, Turtle-baby and Thorsten. Thor is a kind and patient pup who loves to give wet sloppy kisses to Maggie's grandkids. He also loves swimming in the pool and taking long walks in the moonlight. His best friends are Batman the Doberman and Lola the Miniature Schnauzer.



### HIGH MEADOWS—PART II

There's still time to register for High Meadows! Don't miss an evening of swimming, bingo, rock climbing, face painting, food and fun!

E-mail Iliana Lopez at [ilianalopez@mcsnet.org](mailto:ilianalopez@mcsnet.org) to register. You MUST SIGN UP to enter the park!

**WHEN:** Friday, August 19th, 4:30—9:30 p.m.

**WHERE:** 311 North Granby Road, North Granby, CT



### DANCE! DANCE! DANCE!



MCS and the Agawam Senior Center present an evening of music, food, and dance on Friday, August 26th. The band, Soular Bears, will be performing a show exclusively for MCS from 6:30—8:00 at the Agawam Senior Center (954 Main Street, Agawam). Join us for pizza at 6:00 and music and dancing until 8:00. We are not able to provide transportation. Sign up ahead of time so we know how much pizza to get. See you there!

Sign up at [danadansereau@mcsnet.org](mailto:danadansereau@mcsnet.org)

*This newsletter is dedicated to the memory of Asia Drummer, Sammy Gonzalez, Ansleigh McDaniel, John Ashmore, and Jean Michael Perez Benitez. We wish their families and friends peace and comfort.*

DCR, the Department of Conservation and Recreation, sponsors the Universal Access Program which is dedicated to providing outdoor recreation opportunities in Massachusetts State Parks for visitors of all abilities. Adaptive and Accessible programs include cycling, hiking, kayaking, rowing, swimming, skiing, skating and more. Visit the Universal Access Website at [www.mass.gov/dcr/universal-access](http://www.mass.gov/dcr/universal-access) for more information, or contact the Universal Access program directly at [DCR.UniversalAccess@mass.gov](mailto:DCR.UniversalAccess@mass.gov)

### Big Y Community Bag Program



Big Y has selected MCS to be part of the Community Bag Program. During the month of August, each time a \$2.50 reusable Community Bag is purchased at the Cooley Street, Springfield Big Y, \$1.00 will be donated to MCS.

### We hope you are able to check out one of the Farmer's Markets listed below:

Holyoke Farmers Market, 164 Race Street, Holyoke  
Chicopee Farmer's Market, 767 Chicopee Street, Chicopee  
Forest Park Farmer's Market, 299 Sumner Avenue, Springfield  
Westfield Farmer's Market, 36 Court Street, Westfield  
Easthampton Farmer's Market, 50 Payson Avenue, Easthampton  
Amherst Farmers Market, Spring Street, Amherst  
Grove Food Northampton Market, 1 Kirkland Avenue, Northampton

Saturday 10:30 – 3:00pm  
Saturday – Thursday 9:00-5:00 pm  
Tuesday 12:30 – 6:00 pm  
Thursday 12:00 – 5 pm  
Sunday 10:00 – 2 pm  
Saturday 7:30 – 1:30  
Tuesday 1:30 – 6:30 pm

