

Minutes from 2005 Meetings

January 12, 2005

March 9, 2005

May 11, 2005

July 13, 2005

September 14, 2005

November 9, 2005

Bridging the Community meeting was held on Wednesday, January 12, 2005 at 7:00pm at The Kennett Borough Hall, E. Marshall Street, Kennett Square, Pa. Fifty-eight community members came out on a foggy evening to build community through “bridging”.

The next *Bridging the Community* meeting will be held on Wednesday, March 09, 2005 at 7:00pm at the Bethel Church, 300 E. Linden St., Kennett Square, Pa. Please bring a new community member to extend the “bridging” community process.

Jeanne Searer opened the meeting with The Pledge of Allegiance, because we were in a public place. Tom Hoehle shared the framework behind *Bridging the Community* and Jeanne Searers reviewed the principles. Marge Wolf, Borough Manager told us that this meeting place was built in 1911 and restored in the past two years for the Borough Administrative offices. She also introduced Karen Scherer, from the Public Works Dept., and also mentioned the Police Dept. as part of the borough.

Bridging the Community’s Website is: www.bridgingcommunity.com Minutes will be posted on this website, and community members may post upcoming events on the Community Calendar. Minutes are also kept at the Kennett library for those who do not have computers.

New attendees introduced themselves and made their community offerings or requests:

- Nancy McGreevy introduced herself as someone who lives in Kennett Township and appreciated the Kennett Square community. She is a realtor. Her phone: 610-388-3739; email: nancymcgreevy@comcast.net
- Jane Brady is a new resident to Kennett and plans to “grow old” (as our visions states) in Kennett. She is interested in volunteer opportunities. Her phone is: 610-925-3696
- Isidoro Gonzalez is the new Executive Director of La Comunidad Hispana. He also was present, as a community member, because he now lives in Kennett with his wife, two daughters, and twin boys to be born in April. His phone is: 610-444-4545; email: igonzaalez@lchps.org
- Kathy Barrowclough, from Hockessin, De Church is interested in reaching out to the Mexican community. Her phone: 302-235-2826; email: dmbarrow@comcast.net
- John Rahner, from Delaware County is interested in signing up for MYKE (Mentoring Youth In Kennett). He was told about it by Gerry Zippilli and he and his wife, Sally would like to volunteer. His phone: 610-459-1262; email: papabear5@comcast.net
- Angela Garvin, from SCOOT had packets of information to pass out about the bus transportation new schedule, and also will be presenting free videotapes and information in Spanish and English about how to use the system, on January 27, 2005 at La Comunidad Hispana, 314-16 E. State St., Kennett Square, PA. Her phone: 610-993-0911; Email: angela@tmacc.org

- Ken Lam is a Kennett resident interested in the Kennett Community. He is a graduate of West Chester University. His phone: 610-444-0845; email: Malnek@hotmail.com
- Katie Kuffner and Bunnie Shetron, from the CCHD Health Education Dept. have grant monies to do testing for cholesterol, diabetes, Blood Pressures, and to develop exercise programs. Call: 610-34-6441 or email: ishetron@chesco.org
- David Carter is the Executive Director of Friends Home in Kennett. He calls it the “best kept secret” in Kennett. It has been there for over 100 years and has 90 employees. His phone: 610-444-2577; email: dcarter@kennett.net
- Carol Falgiano, a Unionville resident, is working on updating a human services resource manual for Bill Buffington’s CARE group. She will be contacting people, asking for new information. Her phone: 610-388-7576; email: vyttd@icdc.com
- Veronica Tlaseca and Jocelyn Sanchez are UNIDAD students who are looking for volunteer opportunities: Call Veronica at: 610444-8629 and Jocelyn at 610-444-6130. Veronica’s email: NenaVero88@hotmail.com
- Dr. Chad Laurence has a Chiropractic Practice in Hockessin, De. He is interested in offering volunteer services at health fairs. He is interested in the community, as he grew up in the area. His phone: 302-234-1115; email: drchad@orrectivechiro.net
- Brigida Rodriquez, a new employee of Holcomb Associates, will provide psychotherapy services. She is bi-lingual. Her phone: 302-832-1919; email: counselor_rod@yahoo.com
- Greg Alzamora, Editor of The Chester County Press was present to do a report on Bridging. His phone: 610-932-2444; email: galzamora@chestercountry.com
- Dr. Angela Davis Brown, a new General Practitioner on McFarlan Rd., Kennett would like to get involved in putting on health fairs with the community and working on good health practices to prevent disease.
- Bruce Beitler, a 30 yr resident of Kennett was told to attend by Doug Godffrey. He is interested in volunteering. His phone: 610-486-0644; email: pkbeitler@hotpop.com

Other attendees were now invited to share what resources they had to offer or their interests:

- Loretta Perna, Migrant Education, is promoting the MANA/Hermanita’s Valentine’s Dance to be held on February 12th. Before the dance, there will a Silent Auction from 5-7pm at The Red Clay room. Items are needed. The proceeds are for a college scholarship fund for Latino girls. Her phone: 610-268-2414; email: PerRushe@aol.com
- Joan Holliday, Public Health Nurse, conveyed the good news that the idea that was presented at the last Bridging meeting was being put into place-----adopting families for the year---will now be carried out with three families. The relationship will be reciprocal--families providing help with food and clothing, while receiving gestures of care from the

recipient family. Joan also told about the MLK Peace and Harmony Breakfast to be held at The Red Clay Room on January 17, 2005 from 8-10am. Just a few tickets left. Bells around the town will be rung at 8am that morning to echo "freedom ring out". Her phone: 610-344-5550; email: dochollisv@aol.com

- Kat Thomas, YMCA Outreach Coordinator, told the group about the after school program, which is patterned After the Bell, but it is not in competition. They need volunteers to put on sessions. She also is looking for a Spanish teacher for a YMCA class. Her phone: 610-444-YMCA; email: kthomas@ymcabwv.org
- Becky Matos, Chester County Futures, is looking for new mentors.
- Paul Schroeder, LCH Education Dept., told the group that the English classes they have been holding at KHS, will now be held in Genesis Building. He would like us to get the word out. Also, he is looking for ESL teachers and aides. His phone: 610-444-4545; email: pschroeder@lchps.org
- Lindsey Sweet, Migrant Education, is looking for persons, who know a craft, to help young Mexican boys learn other skills and trades. Her hope is to build character and goal setting through this process. Her phone: 610-268-2414; lindseys@cciu.org
- Teresa Bass, President of Historic East Linden Project, showed us the two books that will be kept at the Bayard Taylor Library about East Linden and the revitalization project. They have hired a Street Manager, Karen Hoffman Dennis, who will start February 18, 2005. Laura Jackson from the street, has been hired to be the Community Organizer. Her phone: 610-444-6735
- Esther Rochester, Study Buddies Bethel Church, said they had received some help with snacks and would like other volunteers and involvement. Her phone: 610-444-8860
- Susan Goldsworthy, Chester County Community Gardens is always looking for arenas to develop community gardens with the residents. Email: gardensecc@aol.com
- Sylvia McGonigle Barreiro, Upland Country Day School teacher, told the group that the school always wants to be involved in the community.
Her email: sbarreiro@uplandcds.org
- Christina Navarro, Healthy Start Program, is looking for a bi-lingual family health advocate applicant. Their programs provide visits to parental patients and mothers and children. Her email: cnavarro@ccmchc.org
- Daniel Riehl volunteers as an interpreter and provides transportation to medical appointments. His phone: 610-255-4980; email: danyre@businessware.com
- Jeanne Searer (LCH Volunteer Coordinator) gave information for R.S.V.P, which provides Seniors the opportunity to volunteer. They may be contacted at 310 N. Matlack St., West

Chester, PA 19320-2678. Jeanne may be reached at 610-444-4545 or email: jsearers@kennett.net

- Gustavo Arroyo, community volunteer, told us that he had been away at college, but now is back to help out. His phone: 610-388-3462; email: Gus520@latinmail.com

Joan Holliday reminded the group that Bridging was not only a place to carry on the current processes in town, but an arena to bring new ideas for the future. She reminded the group of the many seed ideas that have been generated at Bridging and are now being carried out.

The group then mingled and “bridged” for twenty minutes. Following are the “bridges” that were made:

- The Unidad students made several “bridges”. They will help at the YMCA after-school program, Chester County Community Gardens, and with the Hermanitas event.
- Mike Pesce “bridged” with Tom Hoehle around the Intercambio idea and with Felice Verrecchia around film-making. He “bridged” with The Health Educators from CCHD, Bunnie and Katie around the elementary school students exercising after school.
- Esther Rochester “bridged” with five people who will help with snacks, and provide tutoring help for Study Buddies. She “bridged” with Sylvia from Upland Country Day to receive books for the students.
- Jane Brady “bridged” with Hanne-loe Pohland to attend a Rotary meeting. She also “bridged” with Chester County Community Gardens and Study Buddies to volunteer.
- Loretta Perna “bridged” with Unidad, Education Dept., Sylvia and Education Dept. to help with her migrant students and the Silent Auction.
- Isidoro Gonzalez “bridged” with Bunnie to do collaborative work around health screenings.
- Bruce Beitler “bridged” with Beck Matos to become a mentor for Chester County Futures.
- Kathy Barrowclough “bridged” with Paul Schroeder to look at ways for her church to help the ESL classes. She also “bridged” with Dr. Brown and Bunnie around the Health Fair for Parish nurses in her area.
- Dr. Angela Brown “bridged” with Upland Country Day School, Angela Garvin about Scoot information, and the YMCA for their health fair in April.
- Lindsey Sweet “bridged” with Rebecca Matos, who will talk to her husband about teaching the carpentry craft to migrant student boys.
- Daniel Riehl “bridged” with Joan Holliday around interpreting and driving for medical appointments.
- Joan Holliday “bridged” with Michael Hardy to look at ways his church could help with transportation needs.
- John Rainer “bridged” with Joan Holliday, who will set up a meeting with Suzanne Pusey, so he and his wife, Sally can start as MYKE mentors.

Bridging the Community meeting was held on Wednesday, March 09, 2005 at 7:00pm at Bethel AME Church, 300 E. Linden St., Kennett Square, Pa. Sixty-two willing community members came out on a blistery cold evening to build community through “bridging”.

The next *Bridging the Community* meeting will be held on Wednesday, May 11, 2005 at 7:00pm. Location will be announced in the Community Calendar in The Kennett Paper. (Two locations were suggested: The Life Center (Kennett Area Senior Center), and the Kennett Area YMCA.)

Tom Hoehle introduced the *Playback for Peace* presenters; Antoinette Gomez, John Randolph, Ms. Walls, and Christina Tlaseca. He explained that this team’s mission reflected the same living philosophy of our land---*peaceful, progressive, inclusivity*—reflected in the Bridging process. Two scenarios of “non-peaceful” situations were introduced by Joan Holliday and Harshad Dodia and the team of four dynamically played back the scenarios with drama and reconciling responses. To contact this group, call Rev. Anita Adams Powell from Church of the Open Door at 610-444-2400 or go the web site at: www.umcod.org

In concert with Bridging the Community’s practice, to officially start the meeting with a ritual that harmonizes with the site that we are meeting, Rev. Anita Powell opened the meeting with a prayer that started with the scripture from Romans 14:19: “**Let us pursue what makes for peace and mutual up building.**” She reflected that this pursuit would lead our community towards wholeness. Rev. Lanxton Washington introduced some of the church members in attendance and pointed out that the attendee, Ruth Brown’s grandfather had helped build the church in 1894. He spoke of the church’s mission to outreach and support the community.

Jeanne Searer reviewed the framework behind *Bridging the Community* and the principles.

Bridging the Community’s Website is: www.bridgingcommunity.com Minutes will be posted on this website, and community members may post upcoming events on the Community Calendar. Minutes are also kept at the Kennett library for those who do not have computers.

New attendees introduced themselves first and made their community offerings and/ or requests:

- Nicole Dilliphane, University of Penn student, who is working with the Liberty Center for Survivors of Torture. Her email is: dillipln@ssn.upenn.edu and phone: 267-205-5612. She is with Rachel Schendler, MSS, from Lutheran Children and Family Service, which supports the Liberty Center project. Rachel is taking on the role of reaching out to immigrants, who are in need of identifying mental health and behavioral services. Her email is: rachels@lcfsinpa.org. Her phone number is: 215-747-7500 x251
- Marvin Powell Esq. moved to the Kennett area in 2002 with his spouse, Rev. Anita Powell. He has a Law practice and Abstract Company located at 110 E. State St., Suite 5, Kennett Square. His phone: 610-444-8707; email: marvinjpowell@kennett.net

- Giscelle, BVA Outreach person, reports that she is replacing Ellen Lake's position. She encouraged community members to sign up for the Red Clay clean-up on March 19th. She also has scholarships for one-week summer camp for youth from age 6-12yrs. Her phone: 610-793-1090; email: gisellec@bva-rcva.org
- Elaine Durham, Handicrafters Youth Services Program works with a Comprehensive Program for Out-of-School Youth to achieve GED and employment. She also could place one person in a minimum wage job that is immediately available in Thorndale. Her phone: 610-384-6990
- Terry Kensworthy, The COAD group has many resources for drug and alcohol abuse in the youth group. Her email: tkenworthy@coadgroup.com
- Erin Malone, Communications at Exelon is attending the meeting to learn more how the employees at Exelon may "bridge" with Kennett. She will give any agency information about their Volunteer match website if they email her at Erin.Malone@exeloncorp.com
- Linda Jacobi, Adult Literacy Program at the library tells us that they are in desperate need of volunteer tutors, who will teach ESL. There is a waiting list of 118 persons. The tutors do NOT need to speak Spanish, and many times are exposed to Spanish, receiving the fringe benefit of also learning. The time commitment is one-two hours/week. Her phone: 610-444-9118; email: ljacobi@ccls.org
- Nancy Bossert, Meals on Wheels would like to expand their territory for delivery of meals to homebound Seniors. The commitment is only one day, every other week. Her phone: 610-444-5049
- Karen-Hoffman Dennis, Street Manager for Historic East Linden Project, reports that things are moving forward to revitalize the East Linden Street area. Her hope is to help the residents realize their vision. She may be reached at: 610-925-1880; email: karenhoffmandennis@yahoo.com
- Dr. Maureen Buckley, a new physician at 404 McFarlan Rd., Kennett. She practices with Dr. Angela Davis Brown. The office phone: 610-925-3835, email: moebmd@yahoo.com
- Elizabeth Thomas, Outreach Committee Chester County for Democratic Party and CC Democratic Coalition is providing a petition to be signed urging the commissioners to have the voting ballot translated in Spanish. Her email: etatrdpc@earthlink.net
- Christina Tlaseca, KHS Unidad Student told about her youth service organization that is participating in the ACTIVATE Kennett Day on April 2nd, 2005 and Cinco de Mayo on May 01, 2005. She can be reached at: 601-444-8629

Other attendees were now invited to share resources they had to offer or their interests:

- Kat Thomas, Kennett Area YMCA Outreach person told about needing volunteers for the after school tutoring and enrichment program at UHS for youth. She also told us the YMCA is spearheading the ACTIVATE Kennett/Healthy Kids Day. The streets of Kennett will be closed from 9am-noon, where booths will be set up and challenges created to encourage all Kennett area residents to exercise more and eat healthy foods. Her phone: 610-444-YMCA; email: kthomas@ymcabwv.org
- Rev. Anita Powell, Church of the Open Door reports that they are looking for interested community members to help with starting a Praise Band, and also a Community Youth Fellowship for high-school students, which will provide many field trips to new and exciting places. Her phone: 610-444-2400; email: MAKK@fast.net
- Daniel Riehl (wife Marie), will do professional interpreting for Spanish clients. He also told of the peace vigils in Kennett every Friday from 3:30-4:30pm on the corner of Rt. 82 and State St.; every Friday from 5-6pm on Washington St. Bridge, Wilmington, De.; every Friday 5-6pm, corner College Ave and Main St. in Newark, De., and every Saturday from 11 am-12pm in front of the Court House in West Chester. Everyone is welcome---peace signs are available at the site. Also, he told about the exhibit of *The Faces of Iraq*, Newark United Methodist Church, 69 E. Main St., Newark, DE. 19711 on March 11th 13th. Call 302-368-8774. Daniel's phone number: His phone: 610-255-4980; email: danyre@businessware.com
- Dr. Angela Davis Brown told of the Health, Fitness and Fun day that Kennett Care Medical Associates is joining with Galilee UAME Church to put on. It will be held at the Avondale fire hall on Saturday, June 25, 2005 from 10:00am to 3:00pm. Her phone is: 610-925-3835 and email: angelabrownmd@comcast.net
- Antoinette Gomez told us about the programs for youth at The Garage. Frank Deluise has started a class on anger management for youth who have been involved with the law. Call the Garage at: 610-444-6464.
- Harshad Dodia, President of the morning Rotary encouraged us to think about becoming a Rotarian. He had brochures. His email: hdodia@comcast.net
- Carol Falgiano, Kennett Area Human Services Committee is updating a resource manual to be used by clients and agencies. Her phone: 610-388-7576; email: vvlttd@icdc.com
- Diana Rarig, Phillips Mushrooms and Friends of Tennis told us about the tennis lessons that are being offered for youth between ages of 6-14yrs. 20 free scholarships available. Starts April 9th and goes through the end of May. Call: 610-656-7173 or email: dleina@gmail.com
- Shannon Burke, WCU Masters in Public Health is completing her thesis on *Bridging the Community* process. She is looking for photos that can be used in a presentation that she will be making. Her phone: 610-566-1647 or email: ShannonBurke@comcast.net

- Jean Searers, LCH Volunteer Coordinator has material on Project Salud, La Comunidad Hispana and RSVP to be passed out at bridging time. She also has an offer from a group called Helping Hands, who will do a volunteer project in Kennett on April 30th. Her phone: 610-444-4545; email: jsearer@lchps.org
- Ron Smith, Good Neighbors, reports that the video that they are making to promote Good Neighbors home repair for Seniors is nearly finished. It will be used in fundraising and for potential clients. The funds were obtained from the MLK Peace and Harmony grant last year. His email: RonMSmith1@aol.com
- Joan Holliday, Public Health Nurse, told the new members that *Bridging the Community* has been meeting bi-monthly for 8 years, at different locations throughout the town. It is not identified with any one group---it belongs to the whole community! The living philosophy of *peaceful, progressive, inclusivity* continues to be the guidance that leads the process, The Path of Potential provides the framework and reflection needed to live a higher order life, and the attendees are the instruments, who carry on the good work of “bridging” and community building.

The group then moved to the basement hall of the church where they “bridged” and shared coffee and treats, provided by Bethel Church members. The following “bridges” were made:

- Rev. Anita Powell “bridged” with Robyn Gable, psychologist in Kennett (drgable@comcast.net), who will work with the Community Youth Fellowship effort starting in Church of the Open Door.
- Carol Falgiano made at least ten “bridges” around her updated resource manual.
- Ron Smith “bridged” with Rich Pesce from Borough Council.
- Robyn Gable “bridged” with Christina Tlaseca about Unidad,; with Dr. Angela Davis Brown around the health fair on June 25th; with Linda around the literacy tutoring; and Elaine around Hanidcrafters program for at-risk youth.
- Kit Thomas “bridged” with Exelon around the health fair and with Christina from Unidad about the YMCA and Red Clay clean-up.
- Jeanne Searers “bridged” with Karen Hoffman Dennis who will assign a project on E. Linden St. to Helping Hands group on April 20th
- Antoinette Gomez “bridged” with Exelon about volunteer match for Garage tutors.
- Dr. Angela Brown “bridged” with many people around the health fair in June.
- Elizabeth Thomas “bridged” with many people around her petition for ballots in Spanish
- Esther Rochester, Bethel Church Study Buddies “bridged” with Kat Thomas about obtaining tickets to the Philadelphia zoo for the students.
- Joan Holliday “bridged” with Mary Dugan around a grant for HELP research on UGR homes on E. Linden St.
- David Carter, Friends Home (dcarter@kennett.net) “bridged” with Joan Holliday around support for one of their residents.

Everyone stayed and communed in the welcoming environment of the Bethel Church.

Bridging the Community meeting was held on Wednesday, May 11, 2005 at The Life Center at 427 S. Broad St., Kennett Square, PA. 19348 from 7-8:30pm. Fifty- seven, energetic community members joined in the community process of “bridging”. Some members arrived at 6:30pm to share refreshments and to commune before the meeting and many stayed afterwards to “bridge”.

The next *Bridging the Community* meeting will be held on **Wednesday, July 13, 2005 at 7:00pm at Mary D Lang Elementary School, 409 Center St., Kennett Square, PA.** (A note will be posted on the front door for exact location in building OR if there is a change of location.)

Tom Hoehle introduced Rev. Anita Adams Powell (UM Church of the Open Door (610) 444-2400 or go the web site at: www.umcod.org) who served as hostess of the meeting. She shared the mission of Church of the Open Door, which is to bring about spiritual growth and develop authentic community relationships. She introduced Louise, a member of The Life Center, who told us about the **many** activities at The Center and encouraged us to pick up brochures and a newsletter. The Senior Center name was change to The Life Center, to encourage younger retirees to also join, and to engage in a life-long process of fitness and education. The Life Center now has a physical fitness room, computer classes, and a water aerobics program once a week at Crosslands. Rev. Powell then led us in prayer.

Tom Hoehle and Jeanne Searer facilitated the meeting. Tom shared the *Bridging the Community* framework, and Mike Pesce shared the principles. The web site for Bridging now has a link to *The Path of Potential* and stories about Kennett may be accessed by entering the web site of: www.bridgingcommunity.com and clicking the icon **Stories** on the left. Announcements for the Community Calendar may be sent to Devin Zuczek at devin@vstech.net Minutes of Bridging meetings may be accessed on this web site, and there also is a copy of the minutes at the Kennett library.

New attendees introduced themselves and made their community offerings and/ or requests:

- Assistant Pastor of Bethel AME Church, Mike Alvin introduced himself. He was invited by The Study Buddies of Bethel and he was happy to be encouraged to attend. He may be reached at: 610-444-2974 or 610-459-9994; email: mikenee9@yahoo.com
- Chris Scott (ED of The Kennett Symphony) was invited by Symphony Board member, Tom Hoehle. She is interested in “bridging” the symphony with the broader community. Her phone: 610-444-6363; email: cscott@kennettsymphony.org
- Alice Moorehead (Resident of both this area and New York, and La Comunidad Hispana Board member) came to learn about the “bridges” to be made. Email: AKM43@aol.com
- Ann Prana (Coatesville Cultural Society, 143 E. Lincoln Hwy, Coatesville) was asked by Sylvia from Upland Country Day to attend and she is hoping to “bridge” with her and others. Her phone at the Society is: 610-384-1790
- Angela Ogunde (Church of the Open Door member) is leading the Community Youth Fellowship for youth of diversity from grades 6-12. They will be doing community service

and be taking field trips, which provide enrichment. They meet monthly at The Garage on the 3rd Thursday. Her phone: 610-274-3331; email: angelamdo@yahoo.com

- Molly Torello (High School Student with Crew 491) is recruiting Kennett youth from 14-21yrs for a rigorous outdoor co-scouting program. They meet at The American Legion. Contact Jean Searers, leader at 610-444-4545 or jeannecrew491@hotmail.com
- Rachel Manson (Church of the Open Door member) spoke about *The Community Festival: Diversity and Culture Through Music* to be held on Saturday, July 9th from 3:00pm-8:00pm at Anson B. Nixon Park. Admission is free to all. She is seeking music, dance, drama, and other arts performers and groups to share their talents with the community. Please call: 610-444-5000, or Rachel at 610-436-8588; email: rachelmanson@comcast.net
- Jessie Cocks (New resident from Philadelphia) has moved into the area and will open a Healing Center behind the Spring Run Natural Food Store. She will also provide training in Playback Theatre. She also is encouraging everyone to vote on May 17th and promote Growing Greener proposal. She has PA Voter Guide books. Her phone: 610-444-6333. email: jessiecocks@comcast.net She also is a member of Friends meeting.
- Hilda Grauman (Kendal resident) volunteers for Planned Parenthood and is interested in learning more about the Kennett community. Her phone: 610-388-3549; email: HGRAUMAN@aol.com
- Carlie Numi and Dick Whitham (Kendal residents) were asked to attend by friends at Kendal.
- Paola Rosas-Weed (Church of the Open Door) is helping host the meeting. Her phone: 610-998-9129; email: cpweed@peoplepc.com

Other attendees were now invited to share needs and resources and new ideas:

- Dr. Angela Davis Brown (General Family Practice 404 McFarlan Rd., Kennett Square) spoke about the Health, Fitness and Fun Day that she introduced at two “bridging” meetings ago. She tells about how it has “mushroomed” with positive responses. It will take place on Saturday, June 25th from 10am to 3:30pm. It will be held at the Avondale Fire Hall. To have a booth or help out call: 610-925-3835. Email: angelabrownmd@comcast.net or her partner, Dr. Maureen Buckley at moebmd@yahoo.com
- Karen-Hoffman Dennis (Historic East Linden Project/HELP Street Mgr.) reports that things are moving forward to revitalize the East Linden Street area. There will be a plant sale on Saturday, May 14, 2005 from 9am to noon at E. Linden Street sponsored by Chester County Community Gardens. Karen has fancy gloves for anyone to wear, who helps out. She also expressed appreciation for Helping Hands group, who helped clean away trash at a site on E. Linden in April. She learned about them at the last Bridging meeting. She may be reached at: 610-925-1880; email: karenhoffmandennis@yahoo.com

- Esther Rochester (Bethel Church Study Buddies) told about the Mother's Day dinner that the students and tutors put on for the mothers. They also will be going to the zoo. They always need help with snacks on Wednesday at 4:00pm. Her phone: 610-444-8860
- Nellie Twyman (E. Linden St. resident and Study Buddies tutor) told us that Esther Rochester will be honored as an outstanding community leader by the Hope Chatham Lodge on Saturday, June 11, 2005 at 6:30pm at The Kennett Area Senior Center. Joan Holliday is selling tickets for \$25 and also is encouraging community members to buy tickets for those that have less funds. Joan Holliday may be reached at: 610-344-5550 or email: dochollisv@aol.com
- Devin Zuczek (Web Master for Bridging) told of his interest in helping the web site become more active. He has calling cards to give out, and any person that has an announcement to place on the Community Calendar may email him with the message to be entered. Also, he has his own business and produces affordable website design and hosting. He may be reached at: devin@vstech.net
- Antoinette Gomez thanked everyone for Cinco de Mayo help and participation. She also told us about the Multi-Cultural Diversity Day to be held Saturday, May 14, 2005 from 9:00am to 3:00pm, which includes a fabulous foods from different culture at noon. She also introduced Martha T. Brown, who is a mentor at The Garage Youth Center, and is encouraging other mentors to sign up. Her phone at The Garage: 610-444-6464; email: agomez242002@yahoo.com
- Lindsey Sweet (Migrant Ed Elementary) told of the success of the idea that she introduced at Bridging several meetings ago. She has received funding from First National Bank and others to support a project for 5th Grade Boys, building their group identity as a team, and creating dreams for the future, through exploring the world of crafts. They have visited an auto place, and next they will be going to a landscaping business. She believes this is proactive way to avoid negative gang groups. Lindsey is also looking for transportation for a 7 year old boy, who had a scholarship for the BVA camp from July 18-22, 2005. Email: lindseys@cciu.org
- Teresa Bass (HELP Board President) told us that Bethel Church at 300 E. Linden St. will be having Bar BQ chicken and ribs for sale on May 14, 2005 to benefit the church. Call her at: 610-444-6735
- Ron Smith (Good Neighbors) told us that the Youth Summer Camp recruitment is in process. So far they have 45 youth and 10 adults. They would like to "bridge" and solicit community support. They will work on five properties in Kennett and Avondale of low-income elders for an entire week this summer. His phone: 610-347-1695 and email: RonMSmith1@aol.com

- Joan Holliday introduced Mary Dugan (Longwood Progressive Meeting), who will celebrate their 150th anniversary on Sunday, May 22nd at 2:00pm. She invites each and all to attend---tent will be around the entrance of Longwood. Joan told about The Kennett Community Choir performing for this event. Mayor Leon Spencer will be the Director. They are always looking for spirited community members, who reflect the bridging energy present here this evening. The choir has had one practice and will have another on Monday, May 16th at The Kennett Presbyterian Church on Broad St. from 7:00-8:30pm. Call Joan at: 610-344-5550; email at: dochollisv@aol.com
- Giselle, BVA and Red Valley Outreach person, told us about their organic vegetable garden, which will need help with harvesting. Food is donated to The Kennett Food Cupboard during the summer. Her phone: 610-793-1090; email: gisellec@bva-rcva.org
- Jeanne Searer (LCH Volunteer Coordinator) told about the need for a tractor with a lift to help transport a printer from LCH in Kennett to Coatesville LCH site. Call Jeanne at: 610-344-5550 or email jsearer@lchps.org
- Mike Pesce (Migrant Ed Elementary) told about the migrant student summer school that he and Lindsey Sweet are organizing. The theme will be “Kids with Values and Bravery”. He would like ideas for projects, which inspire the students to “raise the bar” and be a positive influence in the community. Call: 484-883-9792 or email: michaelp@cciu.org
- Pam Carter (Volunteer Anson B Nixon Park and Longwood Garden employee) told us of the many events at the park this summer. The next events will be the Kennett Run on May 14th from 7am-1pm and “Saturday in the Park” on May 21 from 1-3pm. Free admission. She also is looking for community members who would like to be members of a focus group to discuss how Longwood Gardens can improve its services and events. Email: PCarter@longwoodgardens.org

The group then mingled and “bridged” for twenty minutes. The following “bridges” were made:

- Tom Hoehle “bridged” with Dr. Angela Davis Brown around a resource for printing flyers.
- Mike Pesce “bridged” with several community members around ideas for migrant education summer school.
- Lindsey Sweet received several offers to transport the 7 yr old boy to summer camp.
- Harshad Dodia introduced Elizabeth Rhodes as honored Rotarian of 2005.
- Nick Everhart and Margaret Miles “bridged” with Lindsey around transportation for boy, as well as “bridged with Esther and Joan to help with funds and help at the Study Buddies picnic in June.
- Dr. Angela Davis Brown “bridged” with two groups that will have booths at her health fair and also recruited two volunteer helpers.
- Angela Ogunde “bridged” will Ruth Williams from 2nd Baptist Church around joining her effort to expose youth to culture. Sister Williams has transportation from a MLK grant, and Angela has several students who would like to attend the Jamaican festival in Philadelphia this summer.

- Catherine Townsend “bridged” with HELP and will help start a “Women’s Bible Study” on East Linden Street.
- Drew Cope from RAKE “bridged” with Church of the Open Door for youth involvement in home repair for elders.
- Karen Hoffman Dennis “bridged” with Devin Zuczek about a web site for HELP and Church of the Open door for Bible study. She also “bridged” with Martha T. Walls, who’s relative was the first African American physician in the Kennett area, and she will help obtain more history for the historic exploration on the street. She also was asked to speak at the Kennett Rotary meeting about HELP.
- Antoinette Gomez “bridged” with Dr. Brown about the musicians at the health fair also involving themselves in the Community Festival on July 9th.
- Joan Holliday “bridged” with Jane Brady and Nancy McGreevy who bought tickets to support Esther attending her Honor Banquet. Joan also received two other donated tickets and sold 10 tickets in total.
- Ann from the Coatesville Cultural Society “bridged” with Sylvia from Upland Country Day, Chris from The Kennett Symphony, Jessie Cocks with Playback Theatre to develop joint projects.
- Giselle from BVA camp said that she has “bridged” with three community members at Bridging meeting in March and has been able to provide 8 scholarships for identified youth.
- Ron Smith from Good Neighbors “bridged” with Ann Humes from Kendal who will provide refreshments for Summer Youth Home Repair Camp and Penny Bostelman from the YMCA who will help provide one “Pool Night” at the Kennett Area YMCA.

Bridging the Community meeting was held on Wednesday, July 13, 2005 at Church of the Advent, 401N. Union St., Kennett Square, PA. 19348 from 7-8:30pm. Forty eight lively community members joined in the community process of summer “bridging”.

The next *Bridging the Community* meeting will be held on Wednesday, September 14, 2005 at 7:00pm at Kaolin Mushroom, 649 W. South St., Kennett Square, PA. 19348.

Tom Hoehle opened the meeting and introduced Jeanne Searers, the co-facilitator of the meeting and member of Church of the Advent. Jeanne explained that there have been major renovations to the church due to a flood in 2003. The church is actively involved in the community and has three church services in the winter and two in the summer. Jeanne led us in a prayer.

Robyn Gabel shared the principles and framework that is the backbone of Bridging the Community process. She also encouraged us to use the Bridging web site. The web site for Bridging now has a link to *The Path of Potential* and stories about Kennett may be accessed by entering the web site: www.bridgingcommunity.com and clicking the icon **Stories** on the left. Announcements for the Community Calendar may be sent to Devin Zuczek at devin@vstech.net Minutes of Bridging meetings may be accessed on this web site, and there also is a copy of the minutes at the Kennett library.

Ron Smith presented a short video about Good Neighbors organization,, which provides home repair for low-income Seniors and others. He explained that the faces in the video are some people in the room, volunteers and recipients of help. He explained there is a lot of “bridging” and “coming from the heart”. Funding for the video was provided by a Martin Luther King Community Grant.

New and other “old” attendees introduced themselves and made their community offerings and/ or requests:

- Jean Weitzel (Interim ED of The Life Center/previously The Senior Center) explained she was new and was invited by Mary Anderson. She hoped to find out more about the community. She also told us about their Assisted Senior Program. They have day sessions for Seniors, who are frail Her phone: 610-444-4819
Email: jweitzel@lifecenterpa.org
- Kristen Herr (Adult Care of Chester County) told us about the facility they have in New Garden and encouraged us to visit and refer. Her phone: 610-363-8044; email; Kherr@adultcareofchestercounty.org
- Maureen Carbery (HABITAT STEWARDS—newly developed organization by Maureen and others.) is offering a 3-full day sessions October 14, 15 and 29, 2005. This training will develop community mentors to assist with the creation or restoration of wildlife habitat projects with individuals, schools, workplaces or others. The fee is \$50.
Her phone: 484-678-6200; email: pahabitat@comcast.net
- Molly Henry (Assistant Director at The Garage) told us that she is new and is looking forward to working in the community. The Garage provides after-school programs for

high-school students on M, T, T,F from 3-6pm. During the summer there is a Middle School program on Mondays from 3-7pm. Her phone: 610-444-6464; email: mollyhenry@comcast.net

- Florence Ploener (Community Volunteer) was invited by Peg Baker. She has a friend who needs to receive assistance in financing a medical test/MRI. She is looking for guidance to help her friend. Her phone: 610-388-7225
- Sandra Rubio (Kennett Healthy Start Supervisor) is new and is interested in making "bridges". She is looking for a site to hold Prenatal Classes starting September 19th for seven weeks from 6-7:30pm on Thursdays. Her phone: 610-444-7650; email: srubio@ccmhc.org
- Miriam Conchlan (A recent Graduate of Immaculata College in Expressive Arts) is interested in creating outdoor labyrinths.
- Sandra Bucay (Community Service Coordinator of Avon grove Charter School) tells us that she has approximately 10 openings for high-school students. She would like referrals. She is also the Community Service Coordinator for the school's graduation projects. She has 160 students who would be willing to get involved in community work. Her email: sbucay@agcharter.org
- Teresa Bass (President of the Board of Historic East Linden Project) thanked Good Neighbors for the work they have done not only for her personally, but for the East Linden residents. She also thanked the residents for their good work. She told about a free lunch program that is served each day at Bethel Church and also a 4-H Program on Tuesdays. The children really enjoy these activities. Her phone: 610-444-6735; trbass15@aol.com
- Catherine Mesaros (Executive Director of Chester County Futures) is their new director and she introduced Becky Matos, the Kennett Area Program Coordinator. They provide extensive mentoring for high-school students and helping them enter college through scholarships and financial help. (100% success rate) Her phone: 610-458-9976; email: cmesaros@ccfutures.org
- Becky Matos (Chester County Futures Program Coordinator) also expressed the need for mentors and involvement by the community members. Her phone: 610-869-3096; email: rmatos@ccfutures.org
- Maria Zavala,(KHS 12th Grade) was invited to attend the meeting by Joan Holliday. She expressed an interest in learning more about her community. Her phone: 610-925-3791
- Janet Shepherd (Kendal resident) is a Board member and volunteer in several organizations. She expressed an appreciation of being involved in the community. Phone: 610-388-7001

- Bill Haaf was invited by Nick Everhart. He is retired and is interested in finding the right volunteer involvements. He tutors algebra and chemistry, and is interested in environmental issues. His phone: 610-692-7581.
- Debbie Dart (United Way of SCC) told us about Days of Caring. She had flyers to give out. Also, United Way provides referral information and she is interested in the information that comes out of Bridging meetings to extend “bridging” opportunities.
- Jeanne Searers (LCH Volunteer Coordinator) explained that Mi Casa Su Casa had closed and there are many items at LCH, 314-16 E. State St. to be purchased for 30% off. La Comunidad Hispana’s phone: 610-444-4545.
- Anne Hanzel (Kennett Meeting) informed us that there will be a free clothing distribution for all age groups on Friday, August 26th from 5:00 to 8:00pm and Saturday, August 27th from 9:00pm to 2:00pm. She reports that the clothes are mostly new and that this helps serve the need for school clothing in families of low-income. Her phone: 610-444-4030; email: annehanzel@comcast.net
anne hanzel
- Paul Schroeder (LCH Education Program Director) explains that there is an opportunity for ESL classes held at Genesis Health Ventures (Corner of State and Union in basement). LCH teaches Monday and Wednesday and the Library teaches Tuesday and Thursdays. There also is daycare. La Comunidad Hispana also has computer classes in Spanish and English and GED classes in Spanish. They will be teaching a Spanish class at their site in the fall. His phone: 610-444-4545; email: pschroeder@lchps.org
- Joan Holliday (CCHD Public Health Nurse) is looking for a nursery school scholarship opportunity for a precocious 3 year old child. She also introduced Jane Brady (Kennett Community member) who will be presenting the concept of *Bridging the Community* at Exelon on 07/19/05. She also will be willing to bring flyers about volunteer opportunities that come out of Bridging. Her phone: 610-925-3696. You may reach Joan Holliday at 610-344-5550; email: dochollisv@aol.com
- Salvador Villicana (CCHD HIV/AIDS Outreach and La Comunidad Hispana Board Vice President) explains that he is available for free confidential HIV/AIDS testing. His phone: 610-444-1062.
- Robyn Gable (Psychologist) reports she has a practice at 116 S. Broad St., Suite A, Kennett Square, PA. Her phone: 610-444-9802; email: drgable@comcast.net She explains that she wants to be helpful to the community with her services and as a volunteer and is open to “bridging”.
- Fiona Allison (MYKE/Mentoring Youth In Kennett Elementary) explains that she is one of the three coordinators for Kennett Elementary. She tells us that they need mentors (especially men), who will be willing to give 45 minutes a week to a student. Robyn Gable, a new mentor, explains that it is a well-bounded program, so people do not have to

fear about children phoning their homes etc., and she explained that it is a very enriching experience. Her phone: 610-793-2458; email: fmallison@comcast.net

- Peg Baker (After the Bell) is always looking for interested volunteers who will offer a class in a special craft/interest to Kennett Middle School students weekly for seven weeks. The first cycle of seven will start 09/27/05. Her phone: 610-444-0962
- Mary Anderson (2nd Baptist Church) told about the MLK community grant they received to expose youth to different cultures. They are “bridging” with Church of the Open Door. They attended the Latino festival at Penns Landing in July, then they will attend an African-American festival in August. After they attend these, they will have a dialogue session about what they are learning about each culture. Mary also volunteers for the Assisted Senior Program at The Life Center. Her phone: 610-444-4199.
- Frank DeLuise (CTC Youth Director) reinforced the value of The Garage and explained how they are now trying to accommodate the middle-school youth with a Monday night session. His phone; 610-444-6464; email: deluise@comcast.net
- Juan Avila (Musician) tells of the need to find a free flute for a student, who has the offer for free lessons. His phone: 610-869-5709; email: juanavilamusic@yahoo.com
- Karen Hoffman-Dennis (HELP Street Manager) told us that the project is moving along and the first phase of the plan is nearly completed. She also told us about the Alliance for Better Housing, which has grants and loans for Seniors over 62 years of age for home repair. Phone for Karen and the Alliance: 610-925-1880. Karen’s email: karenhoffmandennis@yahoo.com
- Ron Smith (Good Neighbors) told us that next week they will be conducting their Youth Home Repair Camp. They have locations on Mill Rd. and Rosedale Ave. He promises to reimburse anyone who drops off beverages or snacks to the youth to encourage and support them. His phone: 610-347-1695; email: RonMSmith1@aol.com

The group then mingled and “bridged” for fifteen minutes. The following “bridges” were made:

- Tom Hoehle (Board member of Kennett Symphony) “bridged” with Juan Avila around finding a donated flute for the interested music student.
- Kristen Herr from Adult Care “bridged” with community members, who proposed the idea of marketing to the Latino community and the need for translated materials.
- Joan Holliday “bridged” with Charlotte Taylor, a Kendal resident, who offered to check with their daycare/nursery school for an opening. Ann Humes also “bridged” with Joan, suggesting a discussion with Tick Tock Day Care Center.
- Robyn Gable “bridged” with Sandra Rubio around her practice and baby clothes.

- Anne Hanzel (Friends Meeting) “bridged” with Sandra from Avon grove Charter School, Chester County Futures, Historic East Linden Project and Maria Zavala around the clothing drive in August.
- Harshad Dodia (Kennett Rotary) “bridged” with Maureen Carbery and Rebecca Matos (Chester County Futures) to be speakers at the Rotary meeting.
- Charlotte Taylor “bridged” with Joan Holliday around the possibility of holding a Bridging meeting at Kendal in July of 2005.
- Juan Avila “bridged” with Laura Jackson around the Penn State Extension program on the street and his conducting a music session. Also, Laura has a free flute of her daughter’s to offer the interested music student.
- Catherine Mesaros (CC Futures) “bridged” with Maria Zavala (KHS Student), who would like to recommend that her sister, Roseneli be considered for CC Futures. Also Catherine commended Maria for keeping informed about her community and her involvement in service clubs and interest in “bridging”.
- Bill Haaf “bridged” with The Garage about tutoring Algebra and Chemistry, as well as with MYKE program.
- Sandra Rubio (Healthy Start) “bridged” with Jeanne Searers about the Church of the Advent as a possible site for Prenatal Classes.
- Joan Holliday “bridged” with Florence Ploener about possible resources for the friend who needs a medical test.

Bridging the Community meeting was held on Wednesday, September 14, 2005 at Kaolin Mushroom, 649 W. South St., Kennett Square, PA. 19348. Forty-two heart-felt community members joined in the community process of “bridging on the night of a torrential rainfall.

Bridging the Community's web site is www.bridgingcommunity.com. Check out the Stories from *The Path of Potential Reader*. Announcements for the Community Calendar may be sent to Devin Zuczek at devin@vstech.net. Minutes of Bridging meetings may be accessed on this web site, and there also is a copy of the minutes at the Kennett library.

**The next *Bridging the Community* meeting will be held on Wednesday, November 9, 2005 at Friends Boarding Home of Kennett, 147 W. State St., Kennett Square, Pa. 19348
Phone: 610-444-2577.**

Tom Hoehle and Jeanne Searers opened the meeting and introduced Juan Carlos Navarro, who led us in a community prayer. John Pia, Co-Owner with Mike Pia of Kaolin Mushroom told us about the company. Lou Pia had a compost business from 1945-1982, when his son's, John and Mike started the mushroom business. Over 1,000 people now work for their company. They have 800 employees in the Kennett area, and wholesale companies in Houston, Dallas, Atlanta, and New Orleans. John explained that employees such as Juan Carlos Navarro and Elaine Marnell are “in the end” revenue for the company, with their contribution affecting the stability of the organization.

Joan Holliday introduced Dr. Dee Bill, Professor of Public Health Education at WCU and Shannon Burke, a WCU Master Graduate, who wrote her thesis on *Bridging the Community* process. Shannon expressed appreciation for the warm welcome she received from community members and presented the principles that Bridging follows as a cohesive whole. Dr. Dee Bill presented the findings from the thesis supporting the value of Bridging as a model for community building. She commended us for living by the philosophy of our land and history---*peaceful, progressive, inclusive*. Dr. Dee Bill's email: dbill@wcupa.edu, Phone 610-436-6941. Shannon Burke's email: shannoneburke@comcast.net

Attendees introduced themselves and made their community offerings and/or requests:

- Steve Zebley (Community member) was invited by a friend to attend. He is interested in learning about the community volunteer opportunities.
- Lenda Carrillo (Kennett Area YMCA Outreach Coordinator) started at the YMCA four weeks ago. She passed out brochures about the financial assistance program. She can be reached at: lcarrillo@ymcabwv.org or Phone: 610-444-9622 x17.
- Pat Nichols (YMCA---Director) wanted to learn more about the bridging process. She told the group about the 2.2 acres that the YMCA has purchased for an Outdoor Adventure Park, which will include a Ropes Course and Skate Park. They need help with clean-up on 10/15/05 from 10am-2pm. Also, purchases at Minnie's Bakery that day will benefit this project. Email: pnichols@ymcabwv.org or Phone: 610-444-9622x12.

- Holly Trevino (Amnion Crisis Pregnancy Center) is looking for Silent Auction items for a fundraiser. This agency supports pregnant mothers with counseling, clothing, diapers, parenting classes etc. Location: 645 E. Baltimore Pk, Kennett. Phone: 610-444-7172.
- Stephanie Madsen (KHS Earth and Science Teacher) would like to “bridge” her students with stabilizing environmental interventions. Email: smadsen@kcsd.org Phone: 610-388-2096
- Chris Alonzo (Pietro Industries Inc.—Mushroom Grower; Planning Commission and Community Action Committee) 523 Schoolhouse Rd., Kennett. He’s requesting feedback about the Mushroom Festival. Email: pietro@kennett.net Phone: 484-880-1200.
- Patrick Saylor (United in Faith (UF) Episcopal Lutheran Mission). He is located at Church of the Advent, Union St., Kennett, He would like to work with the community in areas of women, children and labor. Phone: 610-416-4085.
- Kip Stone (Democrat Candidate for Chester County Treasurer) responded to the open invitation to the meeting in The Kennett Paper. She would like to learn more about this area of the county. Information: www.kipstone.org Phone: 692-0722
- Maureen Orlando (Mary D Lang School Nurse) told us about The Brown’s Concert to be held at Avon Grove High School on 10/02/05 at 7pm. For tickets: 610-869-2446x764.
- Joan Holliday (Public Health Nurse) encouraged everyone to attend the 150 Kennett Celebration Parade on 09/17/05 at 4pm and also the Open House for 12 churches in Kennett on 0/18/05. Email: dochollisv@aol.com Phone: 610-344-5550
- Pam Carter (Volunteer for Anson B Nixon Park and Parade Committee) told the group that a person was needed to manage and organize the bands, who are participating in the parade. Email: Pcarter@longwoodgardens.org Phone: 610-444-6443
- Susan Goldsworthy (Community Gardens of Chester County) invited the community to a Community Fiesta at Santa Maria apartments (300 block of Center St.) on Wednesday, September 21st at 5pm. May bring food or just show up. Email: gardenscc@aol.com
- Mike Pesce (Migrant Ed---Mary D Lang) told the group about the gang prevention activities he and Lindsey Sweet led with the elementary students throughout the summer. They painted over graffiti and engaged in activities to help the community. Email: michaelp@cciu.org
- Lindsey Sweet (Migrant Education) passed out a handout of Volunteer Opportunities through Migrant Education. Email: lindseys@cciu.org, Phone: 610-268-2414
- Linda Rigler (Even Start) requesting elementary school tutors for one night a week for one semester at Mary D Lang. Email: LindaR@cciu.org Phone: 610-869-8970

- Pastor Juan Carlos Navarro (Safety Director at Kaolin) invited the community to learn how to make Mexican candy. These workshops are sponsored by Casa Guanajuato and to be held on 9/29-30/05 and 10/01/05 at First Baptist Church, W. State St., Kennett. Email: jcnavarro_us@yahoo.com Phone: 610-842-0483
- Molly Henry (Youth Director at The Garage) told us they need after-school high school mentors and tutors from 3-6pm. She also invited youth to access tutors at this site. Email: mollyhenry@comcast.net Phone: 610-444-6464
- Jessie Cox (SpiritBody Resources Healing Center) 509 Orchard Ave., Kennett. She invited us to Grand Opening on 09/16/05 5:30pm and Zoe Lewis, a band in a body concert (\$15/\$10 students). She also invited us to *Playback for Change Performance on Kindness* at 3pm to benefit the Garage. jessie@spiritbodyresources.com Phone: 610-388-2544.
- Harry Wackerman (Life Center) told us about the opening of the Senior Center/Life Center Used Book Store at 113 S. Union St., Kennett. There are tables for sitting and reading and over 5,000 books. Email: hwackerman@kennett.net Phone: 610-444-6069
- Teresa Bass (Historic East Linden Board President) told the group about the success of the Linden St. Block Party in August. She thanked the community for their support. Email: trbass15@aol.com Phone: 610-444-6735
- Laura Jackson (HELP Community Organizer) told about the residents' fundraiser to help the low-income with home repairs--- Sale of Dutch Garden Spring Bulbs. Anyone interested in helping sell, please contact Laura. There also will be a Home Maintenance Fair at Church of the Advent on 11/05/05 from 9am to 2pm. All community members invited. Email: tenjacks4u@aol.com Phone: 610-444-1114
- Giselle (BVA Education) needs 200 volunteers to sign up from 8:30 to noon on September 24th at the BVA Center and Starbucks will provide a \$8,000 match. Email: gisellec@bva-rcva.org Phone: 610-793-1090
- Jean Weitzel (ED of The Life Center/previously The Senior Center) told us about The Lion's Club Beef and Beer Life Center Benefit on 11/04, Diamond State Band on 12/01, The Craft Fair on 11/04-05/05 and Living History Theatre. She is partnering with Church of the Open Door to provide English classes and social outlets for Latino women in an apartment complex in town. The Center also needs a part-time assistant cook. Email: jweitzel@lifecenterpa.org Phone: 610-444-4819
- Jeanne Searer (Volunteer Coordinator at La Comunidad Hispana) told us about the Bi-National Health Fair to be held at 314-16 E. State St. and The American Legion, Kennett on 10/08/05 from 11am to 3pm. She asked people to get the word out about Computer Maintenance Courses that are taught to 17-21 year olds looking for work. LCH's new web site: www.lacomunidadhispana.org Email: jsearer@lchps.org Phone: 610-444-4545

The group then mingled and “bridged” for fifteen minutes. The following “bridges” were made:

- Jessie Cox “bridged” with Patrick Saylor around his mission and with The Life Center and Latino outreach to women in apartments.
- Holly from Amnion “bridged” with several community members around auction items that will be donated. She also “bridged” with community members around prevention of teen pregnancy through working on positive relationships and building the potential of the teen years.
- Giselle from BVA “bridged” with many community members, who took flyers about helping with their fundraiser.
- Maureen Orlando “bridged” with Pat Nichols about the HIP Program for reducing youth obesity and encouraged more bi-lingual outreach. She also “bridged” with Mike Pesce around the Kick-Off of a new elementary school Soccer Team.
- Margaret Reilly who will be going to Tanzania, Africa “bridged” with Laura Jackson, The Life Center and Joan Holliday about bringing greeting cards back to sell, to support the orphans of AIDS victims.
- Joan Holliday “bridged” with Chris Alonzo on feedback around The Mushroom Festival and encouraged other community members to email him.
- Chris Alonzo “bridged” with the YMCA’s new Rope Course as a future Team Building opportunity for his mushroom company.
- Patrick Saylor “bridged” with several community members, as well as with Dr. Dee Bill around a study about labor relations.
- Pam Carter “bridged” with Stephanie Madsen around KHS Earth and Science teachers learning more about the river systems and environment through resources at Anson B Nixon Park.
- Stephanie Madsen “bridged” with Susan Goldsworthy around her students and others building community gardens in buffer areas to prevent flooding.
- Steve Zebley “bridged” with several mentoring and tutoring opportunities.
- Dr. Maureen Buckley thanked bridging the community members for their support at a Health Fair held this summer with the first idea, last November, flourishing at Bridging.
- Good Neighbors “bridged” with Joan Holliday, who invited two members to the fundraiser 9/30/05 at 6pm Mendenhall.
- Mike Pesce reflected that the process of “bridging” evoked a “ripple effect” and that each of us can share the information that is received at these meetings with other community members to multiply our efforts and increase our community spirit of working together as a whole.

Bridging the Community meeting was held on Wednesday, November 09, 2005, at Friends Home of Kennett, 147 W. State St., Kennett Square, PA. 19348. Fifty-five lively and engaging community members joined in the community process of “bridging”.

Bridging the Community's web site is www.bridgingcommunity.com. Check out the Stories from *The Path of Potential Reader*. Announcements for the Community Calendar may be sent to Devin Zuczek at devin@vstech.net. Minutes of Bridging meetings may be accessed on this web site, and there also is a copy of the minutes at the Kennett library.

The next *Bridging the Community* meeting will be held on Wednesday, January 11, 2006 at 7 pm at The Kennett Area YMCA, 106 Race St. Kennett Square; Phone: 610-444-YMCA

Tom Hoehle and Jeanne Searers opened the meeting with a moment of silence. David Carter, Executive Director of Friends Home explained that the original building was built in 1842 and was a Girl's School. The Quakers purchased the building in 1898 for a Boarding Home for Senior Citizens. In 1965 they added Assisted Living and the Nursing Home.

Joan Holliday shared the *Bridging the Community* Framework that has been the guidance for this community process for the past ten years and Antoinette Gomez presented the Guiding Principles. Antoinette's additional statement: “If there isn't heart/love in the process, there will not be love in the outcomes”. Joan Holliday passed out the most recent Path of Potential Reader and encouraged participants to share it with others.

Attendees introduced themselves (starting with the new attendees) and made their community offerings and/or requests:

- Melissa Watson (Operation Warm) told us about the project of providing new coats for children. They started in 1997 and this year distributed 80,000 coats in Chester County. They are open to having other groups/agencies signing up for next year's distribution. They also will have an Inaugural Winter Warm-up 5k Run & 1.5 Mile Walk Benefit on 12/03/05—They need volunteers! Email: melissa@operationwarm.org
- Tom Devinney (Friends Home) is the marketing person for Friends Home. He spoke of the reasonable rates for Friends Home services. Email: Tdevinney@kennett.net
- Jan Michener (Kennett Life Center) of the acting and art that is being added to The Kennett Life Center programming. Email: Actingjan@aol.com
- Catherine Brison (Kennett Community Member, Kennett YMCA and St. Patrick's) told us that she was invited by Peg Baker and was here to learn more about the community. Email: cabrisonmm@aol.com,
- Maria Bolten (Kennett Area YMCA Health and Wellness) She told us about the event on 11/22/05 9-10:00am addressing Diabetes Management. Also she does Smoking Cessation classes and accepts referrals. Email: mabolten@yahoo.com

- Randi Lambert (WCU Student) is working on a project with her professor Linda Stevenson to expand the educational opportunities of WCU students and Latinos. Email: randilambert@hotmail.com
- Ann Miller (St. Patrick's) is attending to be a "bridge" with St. Patrick's and the community. Email: afmillercl@earthlink.net
- Ginny Huestis (Church of the Open Door) is involved in an effort that is working with Mexican women at Union and Cypress St. learning English. Email: kteacher73@hotmail.com
- Mary Lou Munts (Kendal resident) told us she just moved here two months ago. She was invited by Ann Humes. Expressed an appreciation for volunteer opportunities for the Kendal residents.. Email: mlmunts@aol.com
- Linda Stevenson (WCU Professor) told us about the course she is teaching in *Latino Politics* . She is promoting experimental learning and would like to discover opportunities in the Kennett community for her students. She also told us about a film that we may attend, which will take place on Tuesday, 11/15/05 at Sykes's Auditorium from 5:00pm to 6:30pm entitled "Beyond Borders"---Haiti. Email: l Stevenson@wcupa.edu
- Tonya Tines (Greater Work Ministries) told about the Community Christmas Party that is being organized at The Garage and would appreciate donations for food. This will take place on 12/17/05. Email: scene81023@aol.com
- Evelyn Sanchez (Rural Opportunities—non-profit agency) told us about the job training that they offer for documented migrant workers and also the Migrant Head start Program. Email: esanchez@ruralinc.org
- Jeanne Searers (La Comunidad Hispana Volunteer Coordinator) told about the POSADA, A Mexican Advent Tradition In Preparation for Christmas. This will take place on Friday, 12/02/05. Gather at Friends Meeting House at 6:30pm and the journey take the group up through East Linden and the center of Kennett. The Kennett Community Choir will also be singing that eve---meeting at The Kennett Inn at 6pm. Mayor Leon Spencer will lead. Both groups are exemplifying "bridging" by meeting at The Garage and sharing good food, drink and fellowship. Email: jsearer@lchps.org
Call Rev. J. Patrick Seyler for more information on the POSADA: 610-416-4085 or Joan Holliday for caroling-- 610-344-5550.

Linda Thies (Kennett Square Jewelers) told us that this eve the stores in town will also be open until midnight for "Midnight Madness". Email: ksjlindarose@juno.com

- Antoinette Gomez (CTC and The Garage) told us that this is the second year for "Girl Talk". This group meets twice a month to discuss concerns and interests of teen girls. They will hold a Career 101 Day 12/13/05 at The Garage and many community members will be sharing information about his/her career. She also told us that she had three free

- tickets to the yearly Penn State Extension Dinner on 11/11/05 This year the topic is "The Challenges of Latino Agricultural Workers". Email: agomez242002@yahoo.com
- Harshad Dodia (Evening Kennett Rotary) told of the four persons visiting from Israel and this week he is giving them a tour of Kennett. He praised the Bridging group for working together for the whole community. Email: hdodia@comcast.net
 - Peg Baker (After the Bell) said they will start their Winter Schedule the end of January. Community members with a talent to share one-hour a week are needed, as well as volunteers to assist. Email: Sb29stnj@aol.com
 - Sue Yocum (New Garden Second Grade Teacher) told of her interest in recruiting mentors for the Mentoring Youth In Kennett (MYKE) process. She explained that this 30-45 minutes of direct contact with a youth greatly benefits both the student and mentor. Also she is looking for someone to build a bookcase and donation of books with the theme of grand parenting for the process she has started at The Life Center. She hopes to bring together Seniors and youth reading these books. She also reminded us that she has a text book about A Mushroom Farm in English and Spanish. The book is being used in schools in the area and in New Mexico and Guatemala. Email: SmidgenToo@aol.com
 - Janice Taylor (KennParc Inc.) said they have a need to volunteers for Anson B Nixon Park and also are looking for Board members representing the minority community. Their next meeting will be 12/06/05 at 7:30pm at the Kennett Township Building, 801 Burrows Run Rd. Email: jtaylor@localnet.com
 - Teresa Bass (Historic East Linden) said the project is moving forward. They now have a new Street Manager, Shannon Cortigine. There will be a free Thanksgiving dinner served on Saturday, 11/12/05 at Bethel Church from 1pm to 5pm. to "give back" and "give thanks" from the neighborhood. Email: trbass15@aol.com
 - Sandra Bucay (Avon Grove Charter School) told us that they would like referrals to the school. They are promoting volunteerism with the students and always welcome volunteer opportunities, as well as volunteers to assist. She had some Yellow Phone books advertising Latino businesses in the area. Email: sbucay@agcharter.org
 - Jessie Cocks (SpiritBody Resources, Church of the Open Door, Playback Theatre etc.) told us of the global event that the Kennett Playback group will participate on Sunday, 11/13/05 3pm at 509 Orchard Ave, Kennett Square with the performance "Acts of Kindness". She encourages everyone to attend. Also one Friday a month SpiritBody Resources Healing Center will have an event for teens and young adults, who would like "good, clean fun" with engaging in Spirit body dance. Email: jessiecocks@comcast.net
 - Laura Jackson (Historic East Linden Project Community Organizer) told us about the Tupperware Fundraiser Party that will be held at Bethel Church, 301 E. Linden St. on 11/30/05 at 6pm. Email: tenjacks4u@aol.com

- Den Kingery (Troop 53) told of the need to have community leader volunteers to participate on a panel evaluating the Eagle Scout projects. Email: DenBasking@aol.com
- Barbara DesJardins (Peace Work Ltd---Art with Children) now has a location to provide her art expression classes for youth. It is located at E. Cypress and Rose Alley. She pays a \$1 a year for rent. She is excited about “bridging” with community resources. Her phone: 610-388-3822.
- Joan Holliday (Public Health Nurse) introduced the leaders of Study Buddies and praised the four after-school tutoring processes, “coming from the heart” and moving into their 10th year of good work with the youth. For more information email: dochollisv@aol.com
- Anna Anderson (Greater Works Ministries) told of the free Thanksgiving dinner that will be served at Greater Works on Birch Street Thanksgiving Day from 2:00pm to 5:00pm. Email: Acanderson800@aol.com
- Ron Smith (Good Neighbors Home Repair) told about the home repairs they are doing on East Linden Street and also told about the partnering they are doing with Church of the Vineyard in Jennersville on home repair. For more information for volunteering email: RonMSmith1@aol.com
- Gail Newbold (Friends Meeting) told us that she is Editor of a Newsletter that goes out to a number of Quaker communities. If there are events or needs that the Kennett community would like to have included in the newsletter email her. Also, she had flyers on “Just Coffee”---web site: www.justcoffee.org to purchase an organic coffee, which addresses the immigration crisis by providing coffee farmers a fair price for their excellent coffee. Email: gnewbold@kennett.net
- Barb De Carlo (New Garden Elementary Principal) reflects that she is happy to return to attending a Bridging meeting. Email: bdecarlo@kcsd.org
- Ann Humes (Kendal resident) gleefully showed us photos of the 4-H Group she helps. Her phone: 610-388-7001
- Patrice Bradour (Friends Home Recreational Director) told us that she always welcomes volunteers and would also like new ideas for activities. Email: pbradour@kennett.net

The group then mingled and “bridged” for fifteen minutes. The following “bridges” were made:

- Sylvia Barreiro (Upland Country Day Spanish Teacher) “bridged” with Sue Yocum around the PA Mushroom Farm book, with Patrice Bradour (Friends Home) for volunteer opportunities for her students and Jan Michener (The Life Center) for student volunteers. Sylvia’s email: sbarreiro@uplandcds.org

- Peg Baker (After the Bell) made multiple “bridges” for volunteers for After The Bell Program at the Middle School.
- Dave Haradon (Ovations Community) “bridged” with Sandra Bucay (Avon Grove Charter School) around the volunteer opportunities for the many early retirees in his community. Dave’s email: haradon@chesco.org
- Linda Thies (Kennett Square Jewelers) “bridged” with Barbara DesJardins (Peace Work Ltd---Art With Children) around ways she could support the effort. This connection is revitalizing Linda’s interest in children’s art, and she now sees the potential to bring back the Kennett Student Art Show.
- Jessie Cox (Spirit Body Resources) “bridged” with Jan Michener (The Life Center) and with Barbara Discarding around Playback Theatre experiences.
- Jeanne Searers (LCH) “bridged” with several people around the food for the POSADA
- Sue Yocum (New Garden Elem) “bridged” with Ginny Huestis (Church of the Open Door) who would like to become a mentor with MYKE.
- Janice Taylor (KennParc Inc.) “bridged” with Laura Jackson and Salvador Villicana around potential candidates and volunteers for the KennParc Board.
- Melissa Watson (Operation Warm) “bridged” with Rebecca Matos (Chester County Futures; email: rmatos@ccfutures.org), Den Kingery (Boy Scouts), and other churches to set up sites for children’s coat distribution next year and for participation in the 5K Run Benefit.
- Becky Matos “bridged” with Joan Holliday around distributing Alma Newlin Scholarship opportunities for students pursuing the health care profession.
- Esther Rochester “bridged” with Patrice Bradour (Friends Homes) around volunteering one-half day a week and the Study Buddies doing Christmas Caroling on 11/03/05.
- Ann Miller (St. Pats) made several “bridges” to bring back information to St. Patrick’s.
- Sandra Bucay (Avon Grove Charter School) told of the “miraculous mushrooming of care”, which came out of attending a *Bridging* meeting in July 2005. Through this network she was able to set up four events providing volunteer opportunities for 156 students, who gained wonderful experiences in the community, especially with the elderly.