

Minutes from 2012 Meetings

January 11, 2012

March 14, 2012

May 9, 2012

July 11, 2012

September 12, 2012

November 14, 2012

Bridging the Community was held on Wednesday, January 11, 2012 at Head Start, CCIU Early Learning Center, 380 W. Cedar St., Kennett Square, PA at 7pm. Thirty-four devoted community members joined in the 'bridging' process on a rainy evening.

The next meeting will be held on Wednesday, March 14, 2012 at 7pm at Greenables, 116 S. Union St., Kennett Square, PA 2012. Phone: 267-603-3595

Minutes of *Bridging* meetings may be accessed on the web site: www.bridgingcommunity.com or a copy of the minutes at the Kennett Library. *Bridging the Community* meetings are held at different sites every time---to provide exposure to all segments of the community.

Tom Hoehle (Email: tomhoehle@yahoo.com) welcomed everyone and gave an overview of the structure of a Bridging meeting:

Jeanne Searer gave an overview of the framework for Bridging and Joan Holliday shared the Guiding Principles. **The overall context is our living philosophy, reflected by our land's energy - peaceful, progressive, inclusivity.** "Bridging" reflects this living philosophy. Articles about Kennett's work may be found in The Path of Potential Web site: www.pathofpotential.org

Following are the Guiding Principles:

We will come from the heart----not an obligation
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Cindy Schofield (Kennett Head Start) told us that they have 72 children at this site. There are 8 Head Start sites around the county. They provide nursery school for 3 years to 5 year olds for low-income families. Email: cynthiase@cciu.org
We sang the nursery song, "When You Are Happy and You Know It" to honor the site.

New attendees introduced themselves:

- **Craig Parrish** (Community Member) told us that he had made a spiritual retreat recently and now wants to find ways to, "feed the hungry, clothe the naked and bring support to the vulnerable in the community." He is looking for volunteer opportunities to engage, as well as to share with his friends and church. Email: craigparrish@verizon.net
- **Linda Riondet** (YMCA Board Member) told us that she is the Chair of the Outreach Committee and she would like to "bridge" services of the Kennett Area YMCA with the community, and learn how they can support the community. Email: LRiondet@aol.com
- **Robbie Deike** (Good Neighbors Board Member) told us that she wants to learn more about the community and ways Good Neighbors can live out its mission of helping low-income families have safer, warmer, and drier homes. Email: deikerm@comcast.net

- **Sara Simasek** (Bancroft Elementary Special Ed Teacher) told us that she was encouraged to attend the meeting by Maureen Orlando, School Nurse to “bridge” the new school with the community. Email: ssimasek@kcsd.org
- **Ben Simasek** (KHS Graduate 2005; Marketing Penn State Graduate; Peace Corps in Dominican Republic) told us that he read the minutes from the last Bridging meeting and was interested in helping start-up the Intercambio group, which he attended while at KHS. He also would like to find ways to volunteer and work with the Spanish-speaking community. Email: bensimasek7@gmail.com
- **Glenda Ruoss** (Kennett Community/KHS Graduate) told us that she is looking for work in child care. Email: gjr070987@yahoo.com
- **Rachel Ruoss**, 3 yrs old and **Jessica Ruoss** 2 year old accompanied her to the meeting.
- **Genarro Jacinto** (La Comunida Hispana/Project Salud) provides smoking cessation education and free nicotine replacement therapy NRT. Email: gjacinto@lchps.org
- **Grant Johnson** (Pastor of Church of the Open Door) told us that he would like to learn more about the community. This is his second attendance at a Bridging meeting. Email: GrantJohnson19@comcast.net
- **Ophelia Bass** came out on a rainy evening to be a part of the Bridging process. Way to go Ms Ophelia!

Other attendees introduced themselves and made their community offerings and requests:

- **Harry Wackerman** (Kennett Area Senior Bookstore) told us that the KASC is putting on a *Dancing Extravaganza*---Learning to Cha-Cha, Salsa, Merengue, Bachata on 1/22/12; 2/12/12; 2/26/12; 3/11/12; 3/25/12 from 5:30-6:30----a dance lesson, From 6:30-8:30pm—dancing. Breakfast will be served at the KASC 7-9am Monday through Friday. Cost: \$4 for 50years and older and \$4.75 for others. Email: hwackerman@kennettcenter.org
- **Paul Schroedder** (LCH Education) told us that they are looking for two teachers for ESL classes Tuesday and Thursday eves from 6:30-9:00pm. He has paid and volunteer positions. Phone: 610-444-7550 or Email: pschroedder@lchps.org
- **Burt Rothenberger** (Habitat for Humanity) told us that they are always looking for volunteers. A Re-Store will open this spring in the old Acme in New Garden Shopping Center. This store will have gently used building materials, furniture, clothing plus more. Donations may be made in February. They are looking for volunteers and paid employees. Email: BFRothen@verizon.net
- **Rob Ellis** (ED of Good Neighbors) encouraged referrals for home repair. Email: rwe@comcast.net or goodneighbors@comcast.net

- **Jeanne Searer** (TRIVOSE & Casa Guanajuato) told us that she will be teaching a TRIVOSE class at the end of March, which is a weight reduction behavioral modification program. Casa Guanajuato is starting to plan Cinco de Mayo to be held 5/6/12. Planning Committee meets at Friends Meeting—Contact Jeanne if you would like to be involved. Email: jeannecrew491@hotmail.com
She also told us about the Jazz Vespers to be held at Church of the Advent Sunday, 1/29/12 at 4pm. Donations go to building a Philadelphia school in honor of MLK.

- **Claudia Turner** (Education Coordinator for Path Stone) told us that they provide a Migrant Head Start Program and Childcare from 6am to 5pm for 2mo-5yr. old children for parents working in the agricultural industry. They also provide training and employment, and they have a Food Closet. They are taking referrals---must be agricultural workers and meet income requirements. Email: cturner@pathstone.org

- **Joan Holliday** (Public Health Nurse) told about the MLK Breakfast with the theme “Common Struggle.” For \$15 tickets call: 610-444-4357; email: info@unitedwayscc.org
This event is always sold out. On this day there will be volunteer opportunities at various locations. To volunteer, contact Linda Flewelling at 484-770-5703 or email at lflewell@kal.kendal.org

There will be a Kennett Food Cupboard Benefit called *Empty Bowls* on 2/9/12 6-8:30pm
For \$20 tickets call: 610-925-3556. Website www.KACSONline.net
Joan and others encouraged groups/businesses to hold as many food drives as possible, because many more community members are in need. Joan’s email: dochollisv@aol.com

- **Theresa Bass** (ED Historic East Linden Street Project) told us that tutors are needed for Study Buddies After-School Tutoring on Tues. Weds. Thurs. from 4-6pm at Bethel AME Church, 301 E. Linden St., Kennett. A thank-you fundraiser is being held by the Study Buddies for Bethel Church on Saturday, 2/25/12 for breakfast from 9-10am at \$15 ticket. For tickets call: 610-247-3750 or email: tbass15@aol.com or email LaToya Myers at Latmeg12@gmail.com
- **Tricia Quynn** (Family Literacy) told us that ESL classes are taught Tuesday and Thursday eves from 6:30pm to 8:30pm. They offer childcare for parents at this site and need volunteer tutors. They also need persons from the community to speak to their students about services and helpful community information. Email: Patriciaq@cciu.org
- **Gary Altoonian** (Longwood Rotary) told us that the Rotary continues to look for large community volunteer projects. Currently they are helping Good Neighbors with a home. Email: Garyaltoonian@gmail.com
- **Pam Eppinger** (Migrant Education) told us that there will be free parenting classes offered for parents with 10-14 year olds. The classes are in English. To make a referral email Maribel Gonzalez at MGonzalez@kcsd.org or Pam’s email: PamE@cciu.org

- **The Garage Youth Center** was unable to attend the meeting this eve but wanted the following information included: The Garage Youth Center is hosting a concert on Saturday, 1/28/12 at 6 PM featuring local teen bands. Admission \$5 plus a can of food.
- **Information:** A family from the Greenwood School District lost their home and entire belongings to a fire over the holidays. If you would like to contribute furniture, clothing or funds, a collection is being taken at Greenwood Elementary. Email tmarino@kcsd.org

The group then mingled and “bridged.” Following are the “bridges” that were shared:

- Harry Wackerman “bridged” with the following for displaying flyers at the Kennett Area Book Store on Union Street: Bert Rothenberger about Re-Store at the Kennett Area Senior Book Store; Diana Rarig for Empty Bowl event; Linda Riondet for the YMCA and several others. He also provided flyers for interested community members about the “Dancing Extravaganza” at the Senior Center to attendees.
- Craig Parrish “bridged” with Head Start, Good Neighbors, YMCA and others for volunteer opportunities.
- Claudia Turner “bridged” with Bert Rothenberger, Tricia Quynn, Glenda Ruoss and others for “bridging” services.
- Joan Holliday “bridged” with Cathy Brison around MLK Food Drive delivery; Ben Simasek around meeting about the Intercambio group re-starting at KHS, and with Alice Moorehead around LCH referrals.
- Burt Rothenberger “bridged” with Craig Parrish, Rob Ellis, Ben Simasek; Harry Wackerman, Claudia Turner and Alice Moorehead about new Re-Store and ways to involved the community.
- Rob Ellis “bridged” with Craig Parrish for volunteering with Good Neighbors and received a referral from Glenda Ruoss. He also “bridged” with Bert Rothenberger about Habitat for Humanity working together with Good Neighbors around building supplies.
- Tricia Quynn “bridged” with Salvador Villicana about making a presentation to ESL students, as well as Gary Altoonian about Kennett Interact (Rotary Youth) helping with tutoring 4grade students during ESL classes and Claudia Turner for referrals. Tricia also offered support in helping parents read to their children in a “teaching” manner.
- Pam Eppinger “bridged” with Ben Simasek about volunteering with Boy Scouts on Thursday eves, when there are many Spanish-speaking youth, with no interpreter.
- Paul Schroedder “bridged” with Claudia Turner, Ben Simasek and others around ESL teaching opportunities, as well as ways to receive referrals.
- Tom Hoehle commended Rachel and Jessica Ruoss for their good behavior during the meeting and Cynthia Schofield for her professional attention to the children.

Attendees stayed behind to “bridge” and to help return the meeting room to order.

Bridging the Community was held on Wednesday, March 14, 2012 at Greenable, 116 S. Union St., Kennett Square, PA at 7pm. Forty eight lively community members joined in the 'bridging' process on a warm, balmy evening.

The next meeting will be held on Wednesday, May 09, 2012 at Bethel AME Church, 301 E. Linden St., Kennett Square, PA.

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Joan Holliday gave an overview of the framework for Bridging and Jeanne Scherer shared the Guiding Principles. **The overall context is our living philosophy, reflected by our land's energy - peaceful, progressive, inclusivity.** "Bridging" reflects this living philosophy. Articles about Kennett's work may be found in The Path of Potential Web site: www.pathofpotential.org

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Kim Engstrom (Owner of the Business *Greenable*) told us that it was started in Philadelphia five years ago and that her store is the expansion into Chester County. The business supports eco-friendly building design and sustainable practices. Kim would like the store to be an active part of the community; holding various forums at this setting. She also told us that the previous owner of the building was Beacon Technology and the one before them was The Kennett Paper. Email: KIM@GREENABLE.NET

In honoring the site, we had a moment of silence for those in need around the globe.

New attendees introduced themselves:

- **Bob Thomas** (Thomas Restoration Furniture) told us about the newly developed Kennett Community Worship held every Tuesday night at The Garage Youth Center at 7pm. It is meant to be inclusive of all religions; all community members welcome. Email: TFR1228@aol.com
- **Chris Howells** (Friends Meeting) told us that she was invited by Peg Baker to attend. She would like to find out about volunteer opportunities. She volunteers at After-the-Bell. Email: cmhowells@verizon.net

- **Cheryl Miles** (Bridge of Hope) told us that this non-profit focuses on ending and preventing homelessness for women and children with the help of trained mentoring groups within congregations. She would like to expand Bridge of Hope's presence in SCC. She also is looking for agencies and churches who would like to be come in the county-wide Hunger Awareness Observance later this year.
Email: Cherylm@BridgeofHopeLCC.org
- **Jen Steiner** (Habitat for Humanity) told us that the Re-Store for used furniture/clothing and items is now accepting donations. The store (located at the old Acme in New Garden Shopping Center) will open on 5/01/12. They are looking for donations and volunteers.
Email: Jrothe1111@yahoo.com
- **Cecilia Arce** (Healthy Start) told us that she is the manager of advocates/madrinas, who help prenatal, postpartum and children receive the help and resources they need for healthy lives. They have over 250 participants. They will take referrals from the community. They also help with Medicaid enrollments.
Email: carce@ccmchc.org
- **Leslie Manriquez** (Community) recently received her BSN and also has a Social Work degree. She is looking for full-time employment and volunteer opportunities.
Email: tesleybeck@aol.com
- **Molly Luke** (CCIU/Head Start Teacher) told us that she recently started working at Head Start in Kennett and lives a block away from Greenable. She is attending the meeting to learn of resources for the families Head Start serves. Email: mollyl@cciu.org
- **Rebecca Bixby** (Nurse Practitioner/LCH Health Clinic) said that she attended a Bridging meeting, as an intern several years ago, and now is working in the community, so wants to learn more about resources for clients. Email: RBixby@lchps.org
- **Iris Coloma-Gaines** (Attorney) told us that she assists agricultural workers with employment issues. Contact phone number for clients: 1-888-541-1544. She also is available at the Kennett Area Senior Center on Mondays. Call above number or 215-981-1800 or email: iris@philalegal.org
- **Julie Hughes** (Community) told us that she moved to Kennett five years ago. She is a teacher during the school year, but is available to volunteer in the summer. She "comes from the heart." Email: julahug@verizon.net
- **Linda Tice** (Kennett Square Jewelers) told us about the local merchants putting on an art show on 4/28/12 from 9am to 4pm. They are looking for artists. Phone: 610-444-5595.
- **Lauren Mendes** (The Garage Youth Center) told us that they are an after school program for middle and high school youth. They give help with tutoring, mentoring and

extracurricular activities. They especially need male tutors. Email:
laurenmenes@garageyouthcenter.org

Other attendees introduced themselves and made their community offerings and requests:

- **Esther Rochester** told us that tutors are needed for Study Buddies after-school tutoring on Tues. Weds. Thurs. from 4-6pm at Bethel AME Church, 301 E. Linden St., Kennett. Email: Latmeg12@gmail.com
- **Jessie Cocks** (Spirit Body Resources/EARTHEART) told us about the many events that she and Patrick Seyler offer at their home at 352 N. Lincoln St., Kennett. Mayan Sacred Ceremony on 4/22/12 from 4-7pm; Buddhist Master Bodhi from Hong Kong is currently visiting. Garnet Rogers House Concert 5/20/12 7:30pm May; \$20. For more information Contact: jessiecocks@verizon.net
- **Anne Humes** (Kendal Communities) brings volunteer ideas back to the residents.
- **Anita O'Connor** (Kennett Area Senior Center) told about the Inter Gen Coalition Community Forum to take place at the KASC on 3/21/12 from 7-8:30pm. Learn more about efforts to provide resources and referrals for senior citizens, so they can "age in place" and create a community that cares for ALL generations. Anita also is looking for volunteers to help with serving 7:30 to 9am breakfast. Shifts start at 6:30am. Email: aconnor@kennettseniorcenter.org
- **Joan Holliday** (Public Health Nurse) told about the Faith Community Nurse model, which would help churches be a source of information and referral, as well as support to senior citizens. An information presentation about how to develop a ministry in one's church will take place on 3/24/12 from 9am to noon at First Presbyterian Church, 130 W. Miner St., West Chester PA. Email: dochollisv@aol.com
- **Jeanne Searer** (Community) told us about the events at the KASC—1) Irish Line Dancing on 3/25/12 2-3pm; 2) Spring Flower Sate 4/24/12 from 9am to 2:30pm; 3) Garage Sale on 6/9/12 from 8am-3pm.
--*Voices of Immigration in Chester County* on 4/26/12 7-9pm at 401 E. Gay Street, West Chester in the Council Chamber.
--Cinco de Mayo will take place on 5/06/12. They are looking for Applicants for Ms Cinco de Mayo. Email: jeannecrew491@hotmail.com
- **Casey Jones** (Transformation Initiative) told us that the Latino Advisory board is holding monthly sessions at Mary D Lang to promote communication with parents and youth. He told us about the weekly E- Update and Calendar of Events. Community non-profit groups may also email Casey to have event announcements included in the information at bps461@msn.com Information may be accessed on the following site:
www.arcofchestercounty.org/arconnections.html

Prescription Drugs Take-Back-Day is 4/28/12 from 10am to 2pm. Check with New Garden and Kennett Police.

- **Chris Jarmuz** (Community) told us about his experience of being a community “bridging” catalyst. He has helped Bailey Farm “bridge” to 5 accounts in Kennett and helped a Mexican bakery provide eggs for His Mission at a retail price. He also spoke about Migrant Ministries helping with transporting donated furniture to twelve families. He celebrated and encouraged the synergy that takes place in this “bridging” process. Email: chrisjarmuz@gmail.com
- **Kathy Hrenko** (After the Bell) told us that they are recruiting volunteers for the after-school enrichment programs held at the Kennett middle school. The requirement is one hour a week for six weeks. They will start their spring cycle on 4/25/12 to 5/31/12. She appreciates the volunteers that she recruits at Bridging. Email: afterthebell@kcsd.org
- **Giselle Constatino** (BVA) has scholarship applications available for summer camp for youth 4-15 years old. Also, there will be the Annual Clean-Up Day at Kennett Area Pool, Ashland Nature Park and Anson B Nixon Park. Show up at 8am on 3/24/12 at any of the sites. Email: gisellec@bva-rcva.org
- **Mary Anderson** (Underground Railroad) told us about the re-enactment of UGRR heroes on the First Friday in Kennett Square.
- **Jen Lewis** (Together For Education) has been around for 8 years now. They have 63 tutor volunteers and 9 mentors, who work with Kennett School District youth from K-5th grade. They will have a KCS D Year End Celebration on 6/2/12 at KHS Stadium from 11am to 2pm. They are looking for sponsors and donations. Email: jlewis@tfed.org
- **Pam Eppinger** (Migrant Education) told us that there will be a Latino conference at West Chester University on 3/22/12. Stop in and hear the keynote speaker at 12:30pm at Sykes Auditorium. He will speak of issues that are current in Kennett. Email PamE@cciu.org
- **Claudia Turner** (Education Coordinator for Path Stone) told us that they provide a Migrant Head Start Program and Childcare from 6am to 5pm for 2mo-5yr. old children for parents working in the agricultural industry. They also provide training and employment, and they have a Food Closet. They are taking referrals for August. They are only funded for 6 months a year. The applicants must be agricultural workers and meet income requirements. Email: cturner@pathstone.org
- **Anne Breznau** (Cousin/Friend/Visitor) told of her life-long friendship with Joan Holliday and that she has kept in touch with the Bridging process since its inception.
- **Peg Baker**----The group recognized her as an initial Bridger along with Mary Anderson and Anna Anderson. We applauded her support and enthusiasm.

Peace & Social Justice Film Series invites the community to the showing: "Why We Fight" on 3/24/12 from 6:30-9:30pm at Bayard Taylor Library, 216 E. State St., Kennett Square, PA

The group then mingled and "bridged." Following are the "bridges" that were shared:

- **Anita O'Connor** "bridge" with Leslie Manriquez around a job possibility. She also "bridged" with Anne Humes around volunteering for serving breakfast at KASC and Kathy Hrenko around the After the Bell fundraiser at Hartefeld National on 3/28/12.
- **Cheryl Miles** "bridged" with Joan Holliday around attending the Homelessness meeting on 3/20/12. She "bridged" with Chris Howell around bringing info on Bridge of Hope program to Friends Meeting. She "bridged" with Molly Luke to provide information about her program for parents of Head Start. She "bridged" with Anita O'Connor around Hunger with seniors, and Jessie Cocks around Hub of Hope/HIV Outreach.
- **Esther Rochester** "bridged" with Julie Hughes around helping tutor at Study Buddies. She "bridged" with Giselle Constantino around BVA Scholarships for East Linden Street Youth and with Linda Tice around two youth artists on East Linden Street for the Art Show.
- **Casey Jones** "bridged" with Leslie Manriquez and Chris Howells around Faith Community Nurse Workshop and with Healthy Start to post workshops on E-Update.
- **Kathy Hrenko** "bridged" with Chris Howells around her After the Bell volunteerism and with Esther Rochester to recruit her son for a football session with After the Bell. She also "bridged" with Anita O'Connor to volunteer to serve breakfast at the KASC once a month and she is considering going to Cinco de Mayo festival for the first time.
- **Jen Lewis** "bridged" with several members around Together For Education.
- **Kim Engstrom** "bridged" with Sylvia Thomas around their connection with Upland. She "bridged" with Anita O'Connor to volunteer at KASC breakfast and with Giselle Constantino around BVA Camp Programs and Clean-up. She would like to involve her children in volunteerism.
- **Joan Holliday** helped "bridged" Chris Jarmuz with Esther Rochester, as Chris has a UHS son, who could help recruit tutors for Study Buddies. She also "bridged" with Cheryl around coming to Homelessness meeting and with Linda Tice around potential artists for the art show.
- **Iris Coloma-Gaines** "bridged" with Head Start Molly Luke about putting on a program for parents.
- **Jeanne Searer** "bridged" with several people with her KASC flyers and with Jessie Cocks, as she is considering attending one of her session.
- **Cathy Brison** "bridged" with Joan Holliday about an RN, who may be interested in Faith Community Nurse Workshop.
- **Joan Holliday** "bridged" with Daisy Bedolla, KHS youth about applying for the Ms Cinco de Mayo.

Bridging the Community was held on Wednesday, May 09, 2012 at Bethel AME Church, 301 E. Linden St., Kennett Square, PA at 7pm. Thirty two engaging community members joined in the ‘bridging’ process on a warm, rain-threatening evening.

The next meeting will be held on Wednesday, July 11, 2012 at 7pm His Mission, 342 E. Birch St. Kennett Square, PA. There will also be a potluck dinner at 6pm. Bring some burgers/hot dogs/buns or a dish to share.

Each person received an article written from the Path of Potential about a previous Bridging community meal held at His Mission in 2002)

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In honoring the church site, Pastor Deborah Reynolds led us in prayer. She invited us to attend Bethel’s Sunday service, Bible Study on Thursday eves, and to help out with Study Buddies, which meets Tuesday Wednesday and Thursday from 4pm to 6pm in the basement of the church

New attendees introduced themselves:

- **Amanda Symborski-Pratt** (Crime Victims Center) told us that her agency is looking for a free location to offer their services in the Kennett area once a week.
Email: AMANDASP@CVCOFCC.org
- **Eunice Carter** (Community) told us that she heard about Bridging at Bethel’s Church services on Sunday and decided to attend. She lives on the south end of town.
Phone: 610-444-5982
- **Rusty Jones** (Martin Luther King Advocates) told us about the mentoring program that the MLK Advocates have started for black adult males to mentor early to mid-teen black males, in order to be a resource and support for their development and leadership.

Rusty also emailed information about the Underground Railroad Tours: This year's tour will be on May 20, June 24, July 29, and August 26, at 1:00 and 2:30 p.m. A change: they're going to do renovations inside the Visitors Center, beginning probably mid-May and ending in July. So we'll meet our tour groups on the porch or in the DuVall bus. Otherwise all will be the same. Phone number for reservations is 610-347-2237 (Mary Dugan) Email: earjon357@aol.com

- **Clordean Mendes** (Visitor from Hartford, CT) told us that she was visiting her daughter, Lauren Mendez, who works at The Garage Youth Center, so was attending the meeting with her.
- **Elva Dennison** (Neighbor) told us that she is semi-retired. She would like to volunteer, when she is available. Phone: 610-444-5485
- **Brenda Flax** (Neighbor and HELP Board member) told us that the church she attends, Church of the Open Door, has a group called New Horizons and they would like to start a class in Spanish for community members. Phone: 484-732-8348

Other attendees introduced themselves and made their community offerings and requests:

- **Casey Jones** (Transformation Initiative) told us about the weekly E- Update and Calendar of Events. Community non-profit groups may also email Casey to have event announcements included in the information at bps461@msn.com Information may be accessed on the following site: www.arcofchestercounty.org/arconnections.html He told us about Neighbors in Action/Village Concept Model, which is being started at the KASC. Looking for volunteers to assist seniors---the model will move towards a centralized resource center and an ongoing manager. Services will be free to a sliding scale fee for membership. Latino Advisory Council will hold a *Latino Community Celebration* on Sunday, June 10 from noon to 4pm at Anson B Nixon Park. Everyone is welcome.
- **Bill and Rose Wynne** (New Community Members) were invited by Jeanne Searer. They moved to the area from Long Island and would like to become involved in volunteering. Bill works at State Farm in Chadds Ford. Rose is bi-lingual. Email: WBRLB1@verizon.net
- **LaToya Myers** (Historic East Linden Project) told us that the Summer Meal Program will start-up in June from noon to 1pm for youth 18 years and younger. Ms Ophelia Bass has been managing this program for 9 years! Everyone is welcome. There will be a Pancake Fundraiser at Applebee's on Saturday, 7/21/12 all day. There will be a Block Party on 8/18/12 and the annual GALA Fundraiser will be held on 9/22/12. Email: Latmeg12@gmail.com

- **Cathy Brison** (YMCA and Bethel Church) told us that the YMCA will be participating in the Kennett Run on 5/19/12, starting at 9am and ending at Anson B Nixon Park. She also told us about a musical concert will be held at Bethel Church on 5/20/12 at 3:30pm. Email: Cabrisonmm@aol.com
- **Susan Rzucidlo** (Candidate for State Representative & Advocate for MH Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities). She is looking for a location in the area to set-up a base for MH IDD to develop employment for this group. Email: susan@susanforpa.com
- **Laura Mendes** (The Garage Youth Center) told us about the CCAA Summer Art Camp starting in June. Classes for Ages 3+ are 9:30am -10:30am and classes for Ages 5+ are 11am-noon. Email: lauren.mendes@garageyouthcenter.org
- **Claudia Turner** (Path Stone) told us that the Migrant Head Start will recruit in August 2012 and start up their session in October. They are open for referrals. They also have received funding for 15 children that are not from migrant families for Head Start. For Tom Hammer, she announced that the Peace and Justice Film Series is over until the fall of this year, and they are looking for ideas for films for next year, as well as locations. Email: cturner@pathstone.org
- **Robbie Deike** (Good Neighbors Board Member) told us about Good Neighbors helping low-income families have safer, warmer, and drier homes. They are looking for referrals and volunteers. Email: deikerm@comcast.net
- **Jeanne Searer** (Community) told us about the KASC Garage Sale on 6/09/12 from 8am to 3pm. She also told us that the Cinco de Mayo Festival had over 17,000 persons attend. They had 65 vendors and Casa Guanajuato, with 15 members, put on the entire festival. Email: jeannecrew491@hotmail.com
- **Kristina Smith** (Anson B Nixon Park) told us that there will be an Art Festival in the Park on 7/28/12. She also reported that the Singles Networking group is now for 40 years old and older and she will plan an event in the summer. Email: artwaves@hotmail.com
- **Joan Holliday** (Public Health Nurse) told us that she is looking for a donated car seat for a 2 year old. She also encouraged community members to attend ACTIVATE Kennett Square meetings the 4th Wednesday of every month at the Kennett Borough Building at noon. Their model is: *Eat smarter, move more and create a supportive environment.* Email: dochollisv@aol.com
- **David Haradon** (Longwood Rotary & Church of the Advent) told us that the Rotary is eager about getting involved in community projects and providing community grants. Email: daveharadon@gmail.com
- **Deborah Steeves** (Legal Aid) told us that they provide free legal services for low-income persons. They currently are helping clear up criminal records with a pardoning process. Email: dsteeves@lasp.org

- **Tom Hoehle** (Community) told us that a result from a previous Bridging meeting---The Longwood Rotary bought a large Barbeque grill for Bethel AME and their many fundraiser and community functions. Email: tomhoehle@yahoo.co

The group then mingled and “bridged.” Snacks were provided by LaToya Myers. Following are the “bridges” that were shared:

- David Haradon “bridged” with Amanda Symborski-Pratt from Crime Victims and made an offer to check out Church of the Advent, as the place for their agency to hold office hours. He also “bridged” with Casey Jones about a Forum in Philadelphia. He “bridged” with Susan Rzucidlo to be a Speaker at Rotary. He “bridged” with Claudia Turner about writing a grant for Head Start Program and holding the Peace and Justice film at the FLASH.
- Casey Jones “bridged” with many people around the information web site. He “bridged” with Joan Holliday around a source for a child’s car seat. He “bridged” with Susan Rzucidlo around the IDD Programs.
- Claudia Turner “bridged” with Deborah Steeves about making a presentation on Legal Aid services to the Head Start parents. She “bridged” with Rose about volunteering by reading to the children in Spanish and English. She “bridged” with Amanda Symborski-Pratt around using the Path Stone site for Crime Victims location in Kennett.
- Jeanne Searer “bridged” with many people and gave out all her flyers for The Garage Sale at the KASC.
- Brenda Flax “bridged” with Amanda Symborski-Pratt and Rose Wynne about helping start-up a Spanish class. She will work on organizing the students with the teachers.
- Robbie Deike “bridged” with Kristine Smith and her daughter for volunteering. She “bridged” with Anne Humes, who provides refreshments for Good Neighbor’s Summer Camp.
- Joan Holliday “bridged” with Cathy Brison and Pastor Deborah Reynolds around the May 20th Music Concert and more information about the performers. She “bridged” with Rusty Jones around a referral for a mentor and mentee. She “bridged” Elva Dennison with Good Neighbor’s services referral with Robbie Deike. She “bridged” with the new visitor from Hartford CT and the new community members from Long Island.
- Cathy Brison “bridged” with Casey Jones to place information about May 20th concert at Bethel on his web site, and with Jeanne Searer to post the Garage Sale at her church.
- Rusty Jones “bridged” with Maureen Orlando, Joan Holliday and Claudia Turner around mentors and mentees for the MLK Advocate Mentoring Process.

Web address for learning Spanish and other languages through the Chester County Library on line----www.ccls.org Click on Mango

Bridging the Community was held on Wednesday, July 11, 2012 at His Mission, 342 E. Birch St., Kennett Square, PA. This was the 2nd Annual Community Picnic held at 6pm and the Bridging meeting took place at 7pm. A good-size crowd of happy community members joined the picnic, with plenty of food to eat, and in the ‘bridging’ process on a lovely summer evening.

The next meeting will be held on Wednesday, September 12, 2012 at 7pm at The Habitat for Humanity Re-Store in the New Garden Shopping Center, Kennett Square, PA.

Minutes of *Bridging* meetings may be accessed on the web site: www.bridgingcommunity.com or a copy of the minutes at the Kennett Library. *Bridging the Community* meetings are held at different sites every time---to provide exposure to all segments of the community.

Tom Hoehle (Email: tomhoehle@yahoo.com) welcomed everyone and gave an overview of the structure of a Bridging meeting.

Jeanne Searer gave an overview of the framework for Bridging and Harry Wackerman shared the Guiding Principles. **The overall context is our living philosophy, reflected by our land's energy - peaceful, progressive, inclusivity.** “Bridging” reflects this living philosophy. Articles about Kennett’s work may be found in The Path of Potential Web site: www.pathofpotential.org

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In honoring His Mission site, Bobbie Newman who operates his Mission with her two sisters, introduced herself and explained that His Mission takes care of homeless people by providing them with a place to sleep, breakfast and lunch, and help them get to doctors appointments and assist with other needs.

New attendees introduced themselves:

- **Janet Zeiss** and **Robin Slater** (Chester County Emergency Services Department) shared materials to help citizens raise awareness of the County’s resources at the time of natural and terrorism disaster---especially identifying Special Needs residents. Emails: jzeis@chesco.org and rslater@chesco.org
- **Jose Zavala** (MCHHealth Services) described a new Fatherhood Preparedness program that is being offered. Email: jzavala@ccmchc.org
- **Randy Lester**, a nearby resident introduced himself. He was interested in learning more about Bridging. Email: Jle633@aol.com
- **Jackie Aikin** (Holcomb County Health) introduced herself. The Holcomb group has recently changed its name. Contact info – jaikin@holcombbhs.org

Other attendees introduced themselves and made their community offerings and requests:

- **Harry Wackerman** (Kennett Area Senior Center Resale Bookstore) reported that teachers can purchase books half-price and between August 24-25 they can purchase a grocery bag of books for \$20. The store receives 3,000 books a month and have more than 3,000 children's' books. The phone number is 444-6069.
Email: hwackerman@kennett.net
- **Jen Rothenberger** (Habitat for Humanity) reported that the new Kennett/Re-Store has opened. All profits go to support Habitat building efforts. 40 new homes in West Grove are planned in 2014. The store needs customers and helpers. Hours are Tuesday-Friday 9-6 and 9-4 on Saturday. Email: jrothe1111@yahoo.com
- **Cecelia Arce** (Child and Health Consortium) announced that they will be providing prenatal classes and they follow the child from prenatal to 2 years. The Family Center assists children under six years of age. Email: carce@mchc.org
- **Kathy Hrenko** (Executive Director of After the Bell) reported on the upcoming fall program which runs from Sept. 25 to Nov. 1. The volunteer-based group offers after school programs for 6,7,8th graders at Kennett Middle School. Volunteers are needed to assist for one hour a week to share their interests and talents, or assist in the programs.
Email: khrenko@comcast.net
- **Casey Jones** (Transformation Ministries) publishes a weekly online newsletter. This week it is 82 pages long and includes information about many free activities and local resources. He wants to receive information on free non-profit events. Contact him by email. Email: bps461@msn.com
- **Latoya Myers** (Historic East Linden Street) announced that a free meal program is offered for children between noon and 1 on weekdays through August. Upcoming fundraising activities include a July 21 pancake breakfast at Applebees, and a Gala with historic tours and dinner on Sept. 22. A block party will be held August 18 from 12-4 and National Night Out police appreciation event on Aug. 7 from 6-8. There will be kids activities, including a safety program. Email: lmyers@historiceastlindenproject.org
- **Gary Altoonian** and **Ted Ferraro** (Longwood Rotary) introduced themselves and are open to volunteer opportunities in the community. Email: garyaltoonian@gmail.com
- **Grant Johnson** (Church of the Open Door) told us about a Stop Hunger event planned for August 25 at 6:30 pm. He invited community agency volunteers to help with the Stop Hunger Partnership project. Volunteers will prepare 10,000 meals for a global relief project at the Senior Center. The activity runs from noon to 2:30. They are also collecting food for the Kennett Food Cupboard. Organizations are invited to have a display table. His contact information is grantjohnson19@omcst.net or 610- 444-2400.

- **Jeanne Searer** (Community) announced that the KASC will host a Gala Dinner with open bar and food from area restaurants on Aug. 19 at the Red Clay Room. Tickets cost \$50 and proceeds benefit the operation of the Senior Center. Volunteers are needed. She also reported that the Kennett Area Senior Center has new Kennett Square programs- Neighbors in Action and Village Center program - which are planned in conjunction with the County Department of Aging. The programs help meet the needs of homebound residents. Jeanne also operates the TBMP weight loss program. Email: jeannecrew491@hotmail.com
- **Barbie Searer** a new college graduate, introduced herself. She is looking for employment. Email: jeannecrew491@hotmail.com
- **Pam Carter** (Anson B. Nixon Park) introduced herself. The free summer concert series is underway and everyone is invited – shows begin at 7 and food is sold by local restaurants, Liz Marden Bakery and La Michocana. The Park is open daily from dawn to dusk and has recreational facilities including running trails, basketball, tennis, volleyball and soccer. Email: pamelahcarter@comcast.net
- **Jackie Altman** (Latino Advisory Council) announced that Head Start hosts free Parent Cafes on Tuesdays at 6:30 pm. They are looking for guest speakers to talk about health topics. The location is 380 W Cedar Street. Refreshments are served.
- **Claudia Turner** (PathStone) said their facility provides Head Start programs for migrant children and has a child care program. Email: cturner@pathstone.org
- **Anne Humes** (Kendal resident) said Kendal will publish a newsletter on Aug. 23 listing volunteer opportunities for their community members.
- **Ron Turner** (Community) announced that a Peace and Social Justice Film series is being held in the community. The next film will be shown in October at the library. Ron also is a volunteer on the Democratic election committee. Email: Turner.ronald@gmail.com

The group then mingled and “bridged.” Following are the “bridges” that were shared:

- Kathy Hrenko bridged with Janet about emergency preparedness, Ann Humes about Kendal volunteers, with Jackie about speaking at the Community Café, Ted about Rotary participation in ATB, and Harry about community service in the bookstore.
- Claudia Turner bridged with Anne about Kendal volunteers, Jose about the parenting program, Latoya about helping with East Linden Street, and the programs Cecelia announced.
- Jen bridged with Pam about the possibility of planning a fundraising Run at the Park, and helping His Mission with materials and furnishings.
- Casey Jones bridged with Randy, Jose, Latoya, Ann, Harry, Ronald, and MCH Health for items for his newsletter.

- Jeanne Searer bridged with Randy Lester about the nutrition program.
- Longwood Rotary bridged with Claudia Arce about a grant and Janet Altman will make a presentation at their meeting.

Announcement: *His Mission* is holding a yard sale on July 28. It runs all day. At the end of the meeting, a basket was passed to provide money contributions for *His Mission*.

Bridging the Community was held on Wednesday, September 12, 2012, Kennett Square, PA at 7pm. Fifty-four interested community members joined in the 'bridging' process on a perfect autumn evening.

The next meeting will be held on Wednesday, November 14, 2012 at 7pm at Bayard Taylor Library, 216 E. State St., Kennett Square, PA; Phone: 610-444-2702

Minutes of *Bridging* meetings may be accessed on the web site: www.bridgingcommunity.com or a copy of the minutes at the Kennett Library. *Bridging the Community* meetings are held at different sites every time---to provide exposure to all segments of the community.

Tom Hoehle (Email: tomhoehle@yahoo.com) welcomed everyone and led us in a Moment of Silence to honor those who died in the Libyan attack on the US Embassy.

Tom gave an overview of the structure of a Bridging meeting.

Joan Holliday gave an overview of the framework for Bridging and Jeanne Searer shared the Guiding Principles. **The overall context is our living philosophy, reflected by our land's energy - peaceful, progressive, inclusivity.** "Bridging" reflects this living philosophy. Articles about Kennett's work may be found in The Path of Potential Web site: www.pathofpotential.org

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Jen Rothenberger, Store Manager of the Re-Store told us that this store receives donated used furniture, household items and clothing from SCC residents. The profits benefit Habitat for Humanity. Five homes will be built in West Grove (near Guernsey and Valley Roads.) in 2013. Applicants must be employed and income qualify; willing to go through training for home ownership sustainability; and contribute 250 volunteer hours for another Habitat home.
Email: jrothe1111@yahoo.com

New attendees introduced themselves:

- **Joe Frankenstein** (Chester County Youth Center Evening Reporting) introduced himself and **Dave Nicholson**. They brought three students to the meeting. They look for ways to help the youth volunteer in the community. Email: jfrankenstein@chesco.org & dnicholson@chesco.org
- **Three CCYC Students** introduced themselves.
- **Tracy Glasco** (Against All Odds Women's Ministry) has a REST Ministry; Restoration, Encouragement and Support through Truth. She is focusing on a Women's Mentoring Discipleship Program. This ministry is to help women, who are emotionally hurting, abused, addicted, or incarcerated. Email: glasco9087@comcast.net

- **Rachael Donchez** (Fitchett Chiropractic Practice Representative) told us that this practice would like to be involved in the community and she is the outreach person. They offer FREE Spinal Screenings to the public as well as to local businesses. Also, they offer 25 minute classes as a Lunch & Learn or a Breakfast & Learn. Phone: 610-331-0449 or Email: Rachael@fitchettchiropractic.com
- **Mary Lou Thomas** (Crosslands Communities) told us that she has been a resident of Kennett, moved to Florida, and now has moved back to Crosslands. She would like to be the messenger of the volunteer opportunities. Email: mlthomaspa@aol.com
- **Courtney Fahndrich** (LaComunidad Hispana/LCH) told us that she is a Social Worker at LCH and also is a new resident to the town. She wants to volunteer. She announced that there will be a lively health fair; Vive tu Vida/Get Up & Get Moving on Saturday, 10/6/12 from 10am to 3pm at the Anson B Nixon Park. Free Flu Shots. Email: CFahndrich@lchps.org
- **Matt Reeder** (Senator Dominic Pileggi) told us that he is the community relations person and would like to keep the Senator informed. Email: mreeder@pasen.gov
- **Pete Sirusas** (St. Cornelius Outreach) would like to learn more about the community and volunteer opportunities. Email: psirusas@gmail.com
- **Berta Rains** (Re-Store and Social Worker) told us about the Unionville Fair being held the first week-end of October. They need volunteers and are encouraging the broader community to view this as their "Fair." Email: brains5@verizon.net
- **John Sanville** (Unionville ChaddsFord Schools Superintendant) told us that he has 4,100 students in his district and would like to help them become even more involved in community volunteering. Email: jsanville@ucfsd.net

Other attendees introduced themselves and made their community offerings and requests:

- **Linda Riondet** (Kennett Area YMCA) told us that the YMCA will continue to reach out to the community. They have food drives and are offering a free day at the YMCA on 10/20/12 for families with children up to 10 years old. Email: lriondet@aol.com
- **Jessie Cocks** (Community) told us that Kennett Friends Meeting will hold an *International Peace Day* on 9/21/12. Children's Program 5-7pm. Concert 7:30pm and Silent Vigil at 9pm. Children may view the film, *The Point*, while parents listen to the concert. Patrick Seyler is doing green upholstery work. Email: patrickseyler@verizon.net She invited community members to a Mayan Sacred Ceremony on 9/25/12 and 11/16/12 at 6:30pm. Contact Jessie at: jessiecocks@verizon.net

- **Casey Jones** (Transformation Initiative) told us about the weekly E- Update and Calendar of Events. Community non-profit groups may also email Casey to have event announcements included in the information. Information may be accessed on the following site: www.arcofchestercounty.org/arconnections
He announced that 9/29/12 is the Chester County Prescription Drug Take Back Day. There are flyers that give SCC locations. He will email anyone the flyer in English and Spanish to promote the event. Email for E-Update and Flyers: bps461@msn.com

- **Theresa Bass** (Historic East Linden Street) told us that the after-school Study Buddies program will have a "Meet & Greet" at 6pm on 09/13/12 at Bethel A.M.E. Study Buddies will start 09/18/12. Also, there will be a GALA fundraiser, "Quality Housing-Past, Present and Future" on 9/22/12 from 4pm to 8pm with a tour of the street and dinner. Tickets/\$45. Call 302-293-1854 or ecramer@historiceastlindenproject.org or lm Myers@historiceastlindenproject.org

- **Joan Holliday** (CCHD/PHN) told the group to remember to get their flu shots and had posters to give out to be posted. She also encouraged every person to sign up for the Hunger and Homelessness Awareness Walk on Wednesday, 11/14/12 at noon (meet under the clock tower in town), or 4:30pm (meet inside the Anson B Nixon Park.) Both walks will have the Kennett Food Cupboard truck near-by to drop off canned goods. Email: dochollisv@aol.com to sign up. Check out the Face book for Chester County National Hunger and Homelessness Awareness Week, phone number is: 484-301-0510. They will let you know how to donate money through PayPal.

Announcement: Ms Ophelia Bass (mother), Theresa Bass (daughter) and LaToya Myers (granddaughter) have received the Thanks for Caring Award from the Chester County Community Foundation for their work on Historic East Linden Street. They will receive their award on 11/05/12 at 5pm at the West Chester University Emilie K. Asplundh Theater. The group gave them a grand applause.

- **Anne Humes** (Kendal) celebrates how at the Bridging meeting in July, Grant Johnson, Pastor of Church of the Open Door, invited community members to join in the Stop Hunger Partnership project. Volunteers prepared 10,156 meals for a global relief project at the Senior Center. Grant Johnson's Email: grantjohnson19@comcast.net
- **Cathy Hrenko** (After the Bell) told us that the after-school enrichment fall sessions will be starting 9/25 and going until 11/01/12. They always need community members to share his/her hobby with the KMS students. It involves one-hour/week for 6 weeks. Email: khrenko@comcast.net or afterthebell@kcsd.org
- **Pam Eppinger** (Migrant Education) told us that the Migrant Ed support will be using a different model this year. There will be a 6 hour program on Saturdays, three Saturdays/month. They are looking for a bi-lingual college graduate teacher. Also, Pam is looking for work for a 17 year old girl with a 5 month old child, eager to work. Email: pamE@cciu.org

- **Victor Reed** (Church of the Open Door) told us that he is here to learn of volunteer opportunities. He also does low-cost furniture repair. Email: robindbowers@gmail.com
- **Eileen Beck** (Realtor) told us about the Peace and Social Justice film, "Koch Brothers Exposed" to be shown at the Bayard Taylor Library on 9/29/12 at 7pm. All are welcome! Email: sophiaeb22@gmail.com
- **Joan Holliday** on behalf of the Kennett Underground Railroad asked for volunteers to perform as characters for their re-enactment programs. Email Marlene Drews at: mardrewes@aol.com
- **Jackie Maas** (ED Tick Tock Early Learning Center) told us that they will have a Scholastic Book Sale. They will hold a Flu Clinic on 11/13/12 from 3-7pm. Free flu shots for community uninsured. Also they will be holding their 20th Golf Tournament on 9/24/12. Beyond the tournament, community members may purchase a \$45 ticket for dinner and Silent Auction at Hartefeld Country Club. Email: ticktock@kennett.net
- **LaToya Myers** (MCH) told us about the viewing of *Unnatural Causes* film at Healthy Start African American Outreach Committee Event on Tuesday, September 25, 2012, at 6pm at Milestone Events in West Chester. Email: Latmeg12@gmail.com
- **Jeanne Searers** (Church of the Advent) told us about three Music Ministry performances, which are open to the public and donations are given to community charities. They take place on 10/28/12 at 4pm---*Jazz Vespers* at Advent; 11/25/12 at 7pm *Requiem for 911* at Grand Opera House, Wilmington,DE, and 12/16/12 at 4pm *A Celtic Christmas Celebration/Tapestry of Light at Advent*
Casa Guanajuato will host an evening at the Kennett YMCA on 10/27/12 from 5-7pm with a Presentation of the history of the Mayan tradition. Community is welcome! Email: jeannecrew491@hotmail.com
- **Gary Altoonian** (Longwood Rotary) told us that Rotarians are available to help out with community projects. Email: garyaltoonian@gmail.com
- **Claudia Turner** (Path Stone) told us that they will begin its session on 10/02/12 from 6am to 5pm for Daycare and also have a Migrant Head Start Program. Open to families, who work in agriculture and are recent area residents in the past two years. Email: cturner@pathstone.org
- **Laura Mendes** (The Garage Youth Center) told us that they will be hosting a Blood Drive on 09/21/12. They always are looking for community service for their youth, as well as looking for mentors/tutors. A personal request: She is looking for a sewing machine. Email: lauren.mendes@garageyouthcenter.org
- **Tom Hoehle** (KASC Volunteer Coordinator) told us about the Kennett Senior Center Bazaar Galleria Style on 10/19-20/12. Email: tomhoehle@yahoo.com

The group then mingled and “bridged.” Following are the “bridges” that were shared:

- Tom Hoehle from KASC “bridged” with Gary Altoonian for Longwood Rotarian help; Linda Riondet for YMCA connections; Pete Sirasus for help at KASC, Rachael Donchez for a presentation at Senior Center and Joan Holliday for a GALA ticket and UGRR role.
- Jen Rothenberger from Habitat for Humanity “bridged” with Lauren from The Garage for youth volunteers; with Gary Altoonian for Rotarian help; and with Victor Reed for volunteer help and John Sanville for UHS volunteers.
- Linda Riondet from Kennett Area YMCA Board “bridged” with LaToya Myers and Theresa Bass for advertising at YMCA for Study Buddies tutors; and with Rachael Donchez around partnering with Wellness Activities
- Deborah Steeves from Legal Aid “bridged” with Gary Altoonian celebrating the fact that his homemade chocolate chip cookies were sent to the troops in Afghanistan; with Tracy Glasco around her ministry; with Jen Rothenberger by donating her watch to the Re-Store; and with Berta Rains around volunteer Social Work with Deborah’s clients.
- Jessie Cocks from the community “bridged” with Joan Holliday around UGRR; with Jen Fitchett around her chiropractic person; and gave business cards to Jen Rothenberger, who will be posting them on a community bulletin board in the store.
- Lauren Mendes from The Garage Youth Center “bridged” with Jen to purchase a used sewing machine from the Re-Store and also with Rachael around volunteers.
- Bert Rains “bridged” with John Sanville around his wife volunteering for the Unionville Fair.
- Pete Sirasus from St. Cornelius “bridged” with Lauren around donating blood; with Tom Hoehle around Senior Center volunteer help; with Jen Rothenberger for volunteering for Habitat for Humanity with his 16 year old daughter; and he will bring information on volunteer options back to his church community.
- Rachael Donchez from Fitchett Chiropractic “bridged” with John Sanville around creating a Teacher Appreciation event and several others around community programs.
- Joan Holliday “bridged” with Bancroft Elementary teacher and nurse around ways to involve this school in 11/14/12 Hunger and Homelessness Awareness. Several persons signed up for the Walk. Joan sold 8 tickets to the Historic East Linden Street GALA.
- Kathy Hrenko from After the Bell “bridged” with Longwood Rotarians; with Jeanne Searer, who wrote an article for her church bulletin about After the Bell; and with Matt Reeder around Senator Pileggi supporting the After-School programs.
- Gary Altoonian from the Longwood Rotary “bridged” with Casey Jones around the Prescription Take Back Drug Day.
- Claudia Turner from Path Stone “bridged” with Tracy Glasco around her ministry; with Anne Humes around Kendal involvement; Pam Eppinger around Migrant Education connection; John Sanville around volunteers from UHS; purchased a ticket for the GALA; and signed up for Casey Jones E-Update.
- Mary Lou Thomas from Crosslands “bridged” with Theresa Bass about setting up a table at Bethel A.M.E. for Voter ID help and transportation to the polls; with Anne Humes around coordinating volunteer efforts with Crosslands and will bring Bridging volunteer opportunities back to Crosslands.

Bridging the Community was held on Wednesday, November 14, 2012, Kennett Square, PA at 7pm. Forty-eight community members joined in a warm and friendly ‘bridging’ process on a chilly November evening.

The next meeting will be held on Wednesday, January 09, 2013 at 7pm at First Baptist Church, 415 W. State St., Kennett Square, PA; Phone: 610-444-5320

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Donna Murray, ED of The Bayard Taylor Library, told us the library belongs to the community and any feedback, or input that a community member has to offer is welcomed.

The group had a moment of silence in honor of National Hunger and Homelessness week---with care for our community members who are affected, and in thanksgiving for our blessings.

New attendees introduced themselves:

- **Lenda Carrillo** (Kennett Area YMCA Outreach) told us that the new construction on the current building will go on for nearly a year. 60 families are given Thanksgiving baskets; 1,000 Christmas gifts are given to 250 children from the Angel Tree.
Email: lcarrillo@ymcabwv.org
- **Joe Frankenstein, Dave Nicholson & Chris** (Chester County Youth Center Evening Reporting) introduced themselves. They brought eight students to the meeting; Dean, Troy, David, Steve, Michael, Kyle, Sam and Emerson. They are looking for ways to help the youth volunteer and be involved in the community.
Email: jfrankenstein@chesco.org & dnicholson@chesco.org

- **Rick Hines** (Community Volunteer) told us that he provides counseling for seniors in Medicare and financial management. He is a Board Member of Office of the Aging. He is open to volunteer opportunities. For contact info email Tom : tomhoehle@yahoo.com
- **Ken Schreffler** (KASC) told us that he is the new Neighbors in Action Coordinator. The program is inter-generational----“neighbors helping neighbors”---volunteers meet needs for residents to “stay in their homes.” Email: kschreffl@comcast.net
- **Chelsea Leusner** (WCU student) is getting to know the Bridging group, because she has a project that she will be presenting at Bridging in March or May, and will be asking for support. We will be waiting. Email: cgraceLeusner@gmail.com
- **Veronica Chavez** (MOMs Club Outreach) told us about the organization, which promotes stay-at-home Moms supporting each other, providing group activities for their children and participating in community volunteer projects. They currently will be providing gifts to Healthy Start and The Family Center for Christmas. She is looking for volunteer opportunities. Email: kennettmoms@gmail.com
- **Sarah LaFave** (Community) told us that she and her husband have moved to Kennett and are looking for ways to be involved. Email: lafave@udel.edu
- **Aron Megyer** (Community) is a Civil Engineer and is looking for ways to volunteer in the community. Email: amegyer@gmail.com
- **Judy Diner** (Community) has been a Kennett resident for 27 years. She is looking for ways to re-engage the community. Email: jdiner1@aol.com
- **Beverly Bach** (Community) saw the announcement for Bridging in the newspaper and now that she is retired is hoping to find ways to volunteer in the community. Email: beverlyb123@verizon.net
- **Sean Murphy** (Child and Family Focus) told us that he came to “bridge” their services with the broader community.
- **Liz Chacko** (Friends of Farm workers) told us that they support farm workers employer issues. Email: lchacko@friendsfw.org
- **Lucero Benites** (Kaolin Mushroom Human Resources) told us that there are several job openings at Kaolin Mushroom: Phase II Assistant Manager Position; Picker; and Driver/Loader/Clean out. Email: lbenites@southmill.com

Other attendees introduced themselves and made their community offerings and requests:

- **Jessie Cocks** (Community) told us about several events that the community is invited to attend: 1) Mayan Sacred Ceremony on 11/16/12 6:30pm at 352 N. Lincoln St., Kennett. Donation \$25-50. 2) Hub of Hope will address HIV Awareness in SCC on 12/1/12 at

Cristo Ray, West Grove, PA from 12-1pm. 3) Contact Jessie about her husband's green upholstery business. 4) Friends Meeting at Sickle and Union is holding a Quaker Fair on 11/17/12 opening at 9am. Great place for gifts! Email: jessiecocks@verizon.net

- **Theresa Bass** (Historic East Linden Project) told us that they have hired a new teacher for Study Buddies, Katie Perigo. They are always looking for volunteers and found Katie through "Bridging" and working with Maureen Orlando's contacts. For volunteering, email the Program Director LaToya Myers: lmyers@historiceastlindenproject.org
- **Cathy Brison** (MLK Advisory Committee) told us that the annual MLK CommUNITY breakfast will take place on Monday, 01/21/12. Tickets will be \$15. Contact Carrie Freeman at 610-444-4357 or email CEO@unitedwayscc.org
- **Rusty Jones** (MLK Advocates) told us that they are offering mentors for African American boys from 13-17years. Contact: EarJon357@aol.com
- **Laura Mendes** (The Garage Youth Center) told us that they will be hosting a fundraiser on Saturday, 12/01/12 and Silent Auction items are needed. Tickets available. The girls from The Garage will be going to The Kennett Area Senior Center and be giving manicures to create a connection with the seniors. They always are looking for community service for their youth. Email: lauren.mendes@garageyouthcenter.org
- **Joan Holliday** (Public Health Nurse) told the group about the two walks for National Hunger and Homelessness Awareness today. Over 100 community residents participated. Also, she applauded Theresa Bass, her mother, and daughter, who received the Thanks for Caring award on 11/04/12 at The Chester County Community Foundation. She told about the need for a commercial freezer for His Mission Shelter and if anyone knew of a used one from a restaurant to donate. Email: dochollisv@aol.com
- **Kathy Hrenko** (ED After the Bell) told us that the after school enrichment sessions are opening at the KMS on 01/22/13 and go until 02/28/13. Volunteers are needed to share hobbies and interests, as well as support persons. She also is a member of the Longwood Rotary and they are always looking for community volunteer projects. Email: khrenko@comcast.net or afterthebell@kcsd.org
- **Anne Humes** (Crosslands) told us that some seniors need community help, but many seniors are also viable volunteers and that she recently recruited 3 residents for community volunteer efforts. Crosslands holds a semi-annual food drive and have a Knitter's group, which knits mittens, scarves and hats for children. Phone: 610-388-1199
- **Jennifer Lewis** (Together for Education) told us she has recruited 47 community volunteers to assist students in Kennett's three elementary schools. She still has a list, that is a page long for other needs. She needs tutors/mentors and project assistants. Email: jlewis@tfed.org Check out the web site at: 222.tfed.org

- **Matt Reeder** (Senator Dominic Pileggi) told us that he is the community relations person and would like to keep the Senator informed. Email: mreeder@pasen.gov
- **Claudia Turner** (Path stone/Migrant Head start) They are looking for a teacher, who does not have to have a BS. They also need a health and safety coordinator; does not need to be bi-lingual. Email: cturner@pathstone.org
- **Victor Reed** (Church of the Open Door) told us that he is here to learn of volunteer opportunities. He also does low-cost furniture repair. Email: robindbowers@gmail.com
- **Robbie Dyke** (Good Neighbors) told the group that Good Neighbors serves the low-income homeowner through home repair, keeping their homes safer, warmer and drier. They always need volunteers and take home referrals. They are looking for mission passionate Board members. Email: deikerm@comcast.net
- **Jose Zavala** (MCHealth Services) described a new Fatherhood Preparedness program that is being offered. He is running a bi-lingual workshop "Daddy & Me!" (Creating educational activities through using only recyclable materials) on 11/29/12 from 5:30pm-8pm. Email: jzavala@ccmchc.org

The group then mingled and "bridged." Following are the "bridges" that were shared:

- Tom Hoehle from KASC "bridged" with Veronica Chavez about the MOM's Club decorating Christmas cookies with the seniors at the KASC; Matt Reeder and Aron Meyger for lifting heavy desks, and with the Chester County Youth for gardening projects.
- Donna Murray "bridged" with Jose Zavala about the program at the library, "Libros Amigos." She would like him to be a professional resource.
- Jennifer Lewis passed out her flyer with volunteer opportunities within Kennett Elementary schools to Anne Hume (Kendal), Mary Lou Thomas (Crosslands) and several others.
- Joan Holliday "bridged" with Rusty Jones about two referrals for mentoring program and with Jose Zavala about passing out information about workshop, and with Lucero Benites about job opportunities for her clients.
- Robbie Dyke "bridged" with Aron Megyer and Sarah LaFevé about volunteering with Good Neighbors. She also "bridged" with Kathy Hrenko, who will bring the challenge of finding a mission passionate Board member to the Longwood Rotary.
- Sarah LaFevé "bridged" with Robbie Dyke about volunteering at home seniors.
- Lucero "bridged" with Jennifer Lewis, Claudia Turner, Veronica Chavez, Esther Rochester and Joan Holliday about the job opportunities at Kaolin. They will distribute to their groups.
- Kathy Hrenko "bridged" with Sarah LaFevé reminding her that she met her, when she moved to Kennett and told her to attend a Bridging meeting, and here she is! She also "bridged" with Cathy Brison about MLK CommUNITY breakfast tickets.
- Mary Lou Thomas "bridged" with Jennifer Lewis about recruiting volunteers for the Kennett elementary schools. She "bridged" with Robbie Dyke about roles that seniors

could play with Good Neighbors and with Jose Zavala and ways seniors could support his fatherhood initiative.

- Chelsea Leusner “bridged” with Casey Jones about Transformation Initiative, with Esther Rochester about volunteering at Study buddies and Cathy Brison about MLK Breakfast.
- Ken Schreffler “bridged” with Pastor Grant Johnson about recruiting volunteers for Neighbors in Action at Church of the Open Door. He “bridged” with Rick Hines about RSVP and Family services.
- Claudia Turner “bridged” with Lenda Carrillo about the 60 coats that were delivered to Migrant Head start. She “bridged” with Liz Chacko about making a presentation about her Friends of Farm workers services. She “bridged” with Cathy Brison about MLK tickets. She “bridged” with Lucero Benites about getting information out about available jobs at Kaolin and Jose Zavala about passing out information about fatherhood workshop.
- Cathy Brison “bridged” with Lauren Mendes about MLK tickets for The Garage youth and with the Chester County Youth Center and The Garage Youth Center about helping unload food boxes contributed to the Kennett Food Cupboard on day of the MLK Breakfast.
- Jessie Cocks “bridged” with Chelsea Leusner about her interest in the Mayan Sacred Ceremony and with The Garage Youth Center about contributing Silent Auction item.

Community members lingered and continued “bridging” after the meeting ended.