

Minutes from 2013 Meetings

January 9, 2013

May 8, 2013

July 10, 2013

September 11, 2013

November 13, 2013

Bridging the Community was held on Wednesday, January 09, 2013 at First Baptist Church, 415 W. State St, Kennett Square, PA at 7pm. Forty-two community members joined in a lively and fun ‘bridging’ process on an unseasonably warm January evening.

This is the 87th Bridging meeting! (Group has been meeting since May 1998 bi-monthly)

The next meeting will be held on Wednesday, March 18 2013 at 7pm at Adult Day Care of Chester County, 500 Old Forge Ln., Suite 503, Kennett Square, PA. (Directions: Heading out of Kennett towards Longwood, on the right hand side, after CVS Pharmacy.)

For information call: 610-717-2180

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 and encouraged each person to adopt one principle to live by these next two months. **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

We will work for community---not personal agendas

We will focus on the potential side---not the issue side

We will keep it a process---not a program with infrastructure

We will value each person’s contribution---not focused on formal hierarchy

Nick Everhart (First Baptist Deacon) welcomed us on behalf of the Pastor, Jim Olsen. He told us that the church was started 10/11/1882 and the building has been present since 1926. They have a 11am service and Sunday school at 10:45am. They have a JAM (Jesus and Me) Nursery School. They also hold AA and Al-Anon groups. A Guatemalan group/Monte Horbe holds services every Sunday at this site. They have an active Youth Group; senior lunch the last Thursday of the month and they will hold a “Tractor to Church” event 4/15-17/13 with over 40 John Deere tractors on the site. Nick led us in a prayer. Email: nickeverhart@verizon.net

New attendees introduced themselves:

- **Amber Little & Sherri Worrell** (Legal Shield---A Legal Plan) They told us that they provide legal protection with low monthly fees, which provides access to quality law firms in subscriber’s area. They address Wills, Health Care, Moving Traffic Violations, Identity Thefts etc. Email: Amberctsvll@gmail.com or SherriWorrell76@comcast.net

- **Cathy Warshaw & Nick** (Innovations Homecare) told us that they are trying to fill the gap for seniors, who are on the waiting list from the Office of the Aging. They provide senior services on a sliding scale fee for seniors, who want to age in place.
Email: cwarshaw@innovationshomecare.org
- **Diane Durham** (Brandywine Senior Transitions) told us that they help seniors, who are trying to down-size and move on. They also help care for estates and homes, while seniors are on vacation. Phone: 302-234-1999 or info@brandywineseniortransitions.com
- **Lois** (Tax Advocate Service) told us that they help taxpayers with issues they have with the IRS. Phone: 215-516-2499
- **Luisa Ortiz** (The MCH/Family Center) told us that they are under the umbrella of MCH and provide services to families with children 0-5 yrs. with parenting and readiness for school. Email: lortiz@ccmchc.org
- **Cecilia Arace** (The MCH/ Healthy Start) told us that Healthy Start is also under the umbrella of MCH, along with the Benefits Program and The Family Center. Healthy Start Advocates home visit prenatal, postpartum and until the child is 2 yrs. old. They support healthy practices and access to care. Email: carce@ccmchc.org
- **Lina Cedeno** (Girl Scouts) told us that she is new to the area and hopes to promote Girl Scouts in the Latino community. Email: icedeno@gsep.org
- **Robin Krug** (Community) told us that she had attended Bridging in its earlier years and now is returning to find out how to volunteer and support the community.
Email: rakrug@comcast.net
- **Elizabeth Mathias** (Crosslands Communities) told us that she was a teacher of cultural anthropology for many years. She has an interest in the Italian immigrants and speaks Italian. Email: elmathias510@yahoo.com
- **Kristen White** (Christian Life Center) told us that she was retired and looking for ways to bring some of the ideas for volunteerism from Bridging to Avondale and SCC.
Email: gdgrief44@yahoo.com
- **Dianne & Vance Fritz** (Ways Florist/Cypress St.) told us that they were invited by Victor Reed from Church of the Open Door to attend this gathering. They weren't sure the purpose, but they were open to learn how to become more known as a business, and better involved in the Kennett community. Email: waysflorist@gmail.com
- **Tammy Duering** (Longwood Rotary) told us that they are always looking for community projects to involve the Rotarians. Email: tduering@comcast.net
- **Nancy Bossert** (Meals on Wheels) told us that meals are delivered to homebound seniors of all income levels---pay on a sliding-scale fee. Meals prepared by Kendal. She is

looking for volunteers to deliver the meals and for referrals of seniors in need.

Email: nanboss@comcast.net

- **Cassandra McDonald** (First Baptist Church Youth Group) told us that she had attended a Bridging meeting as a teenager. Now she is married and working in the Day Care at First Baptist and works with the Youth Group. She is looking for areas for the youth to serve the community. Looking for invites into projects.
Email: dinky0220@yahoo.com; Phone: 484-632-5732

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

- **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, who want to “stay in their homes.” Need volunteers and referrals: He also told us about Senior Care Ministries, which provides free seminars for seniors around their concerns. Email: kschreffler@kennettseiorcenter.org
- **Matt Reeder** (Senator Dominic Pileggi) told us that he is the community relations person and would like to offer community invitations to the Senator and present any issues of concern. Email: mreeder@pasen.gov
- **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. Information may be accessed on the following web site: www.arcofchestercounty.org/arconnections. If you would like weekly email notices, or want to inform Casey of upcoming events, email: bps461@msn.com
Casey is also looking for churches/groups or agencies, who would like to promote services for the broad-spectrum of Special Needs; he has a model and contact list to share.
- **Cathy Brison** (MLK Advocates) told us about the MLK CommUNITY Breakfast to be held on 1/21/13 from 8-10am at The Red Clay Room, Dalmation St., Kennett. Tickets are \$15 and may be purchased at the United Way Office. Joan Holliday also has tickets. There will be a major food drive that day. Drop-off sites around town---look for them; contribute. If you would like to start a food drive email: mlkfooddrive@gmail.com
- **Joan Holliday** (Public Health Nurse) told the group about the Kennett Community Choir, which will sing at the MLK CommUNITY Breakfast and all community members welcome to sing! Email: dochollisv@aol.com
- **Iris Coloma-Gaines** (Philadelphia Legal Assistance) told us that she is available for free legal advice around migrant issues related to employment. Email: iris@philalegal.org
- **Jessie Cocks** (Community) told us about the Peace and Justice film, “Last Mountain”, which will be shown at London Grove Friends Meeting on 1/26/13 from 7-9:30pm with Snow Date, 2/2/13. She also told us about the HUB/HIV Awareness Group, which will

provide a *Sistas 'Tea* about HIV on 3/09/13 from 2-4pm at Milestone Events in West Chester. \$5/person. Email: hub-of-hope@umcod.org or jessiecocks@verizon.net

- **Jeanne Searer** (Community) told us about planning for Cinco de Mayo Festival with the Casa Guanajuato group; they need volunteers. Next meeting is 1/21/13.
On 01/27/13 The Church of the Advent is putting on a concert honoring humanity and the importance of Jazz by Martin Luther King, as per 1964 Jazz Festival. Donations will go to St. James Prep in Phillie. Jeanne puts on weight loss classes and will start TREVOSE in the spring. Email: jeannecrew491@hotmail.com
- **LaToya Myers** (MCH and Historic East Linden Project ED) is always looking for after school tutors on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday from 4-6pm at Bethel AME Church, 300 E. Linden St., Kennett. Stop by and experience the industrious students under the head teacher, Katie Perigo and consider volunteering. Avondale high school students from the Humanitarian Club have discovered the fun and are tutoring.
Email: lm Myers@historiceastlindenproject.org
- **Sylvia Barreiro Thomas** (Upland Country Day School and First Baptist) told us that she teaches Spanish to elementary students at Upland. She is always looking for community opportunities for her students. Email: sbarreiro@uplandcds.org
- **Gerty Morar** (Seniors Helping Seniors) is looking for bi-lingual homecare givers. Please call today 484-366-2521 or 484-885-7816.
Or, send an email to shs@apathwayforseniors.com
- **Lauren Mendes** (The Garage Youth Center) told us that they are looking for after-school tutors for students 6th grade through high-school. Also, Lauren would like to find arenas for students for community service, both volunteer and court-mandated.
Email: lauren.mendes@garageyouthcenter.org
- **Robin Bower** (Community) delivered Victor Reed's message to the Fritz's from Way's Florist and apologized for not being able to attend Bridging this evening with them.
- Email: robindbowers@gmail.com

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

- Lauren Mendes from The Garage Youth Center "bridged" with Diane and Vance Fritz about future community service opportunities. She "bridged" with Courtney Fahndrich (CFahndrich@lchps.org) from LCH about Health Screenings. She "bridged" with Lina Cedeno around ways to bring Girl Scouts to The Garage youth.
- Sylvia Barreiro Thomas "bridged" with Lina Cedeno around Girl Scouts; with Iris Coloma-Gaines around bringing her services to the Guatemalan group, which has services at First Baptist; with Amber Little around Legal Shield, and with Tammy Duering around Longwood Rotary helping with His Mission Homeless Shelter.

- Nancy Bossert “bridged” with Amber Little around a Legal Shield presentation at the Senior Luncheon and Ken Schreffler about Neighbors in Action for Meals on Wheels clients. And, she “bridged” with Robin Krug about Meals on Wheels volunteering.
- Casey Jones “bridged” with Nick Everhart around the Lifeline Ministries; with Kristen White around resource information and several others around resource publications.
- Joan Holliday “bridged” with several attendees, who purchased MLK Breakfast tickets; with Diane and Vance Fritz around Kennett Beautification and Chester County Food Bank Community Gardens; with Matt Reeder about CCHD HIV Outreach grant ending.
- Tom Hoehle “bridged” with Amber and Sherri around Identity Theft and Lois around IRS Advocacy for KASC programs. He “bridged” with Elizabeth Mathias around Italian language opportunities and Jazz; Cassandra McDonald around the youth “bridging” with seniors---inter-generation activities.
- Jessie Cocks “bridged” with Cassandra McDonald, Girl Scouts and Salvador Villicana around the Social Justice films and with Cathy Brison and Joan Holliday around MLK Breakfast.
- Ken Schreffler made EIGHT “bridges”! He “bridged” with Nick Everhart around making presentations about Neighbors in Action to First Baptist Church and to the Masons; with Nancy Bossert around providing Senior Care Ministries presentation for First Baptist luncheon; with Cathy Warshaw around coordinating their services to leverage the best help for seniors; with Tammy Duering around speaking at Longwood Rotary about Neighbors in Action; with Robin Krug around volunteering, with Kristen White about speaking at Christian Life Center at *Soup for the Soul* event and with Amber Little and Sherri Worrell about their participation in Neighbors in Action.
- Cecilia Arace from MCH Healthy Start “bridged” with Iris Colon-Gaines around providing information to Healthy Start clients; with Matt Reeder around information for Senator Dominic Pileggi; with Diane Durham around helping out with a Parkinson fundraiser as a return favor.
- LaToya Myers “bridged” with Diane and Vance Fritz around ways they could involve the Study Buddies in plantings in the spring.
- Luisa Ortiz “bridged” with Iris-Colon Gaines around helping The Family Center clients and also with Kristen White.

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

Bridging the Community was held on Wednesday, March 13, 2013 at Adult Day Care of Chester County, 500 Old Forge Lane, Suite 503, Kennett Square, PA 19348. Forty three community members joined in a highly-spirited and caring ‘bridging’ process on a chilly pre-spring evening. **This is the 88th Bridging meeting! (Group has been meeting since May 1998 bi-monthly)**

The next meeting will be held on Wednesday, May 08, 2013 at 7pm at The Centre for Vibrant Living, 331 E. State Street, Kennett Square, PA 19348. (Heading into Kennett on State St; it is on the right hand side and on the corner of State and N. Willow Street.)

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.

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Jeanne Searer gave an overview of the framework for Bridging and Joan Holliday shared the Guiding Principles and encouraged each person to adopt one principle to live by these next two months. **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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Pat Schull told us that she and her husband, Dave, are founders of Chester County Adult Day Care. They have a site in Exton and this one in Kennett. They care for adults during the day hours and provide many stimulating and enriching experiences for them. They have nurses on staff for medications and treatments. Currently they have 30 attendees and have capacity for more. Email for Pat: pshull@acofcc.org Email for Dave: dshull@acofcc.org

New attendees introduced themselves:

- **Bill Shelton** (Crime Victims Center) told us that they have a 24 Hot Line for victims of Domestic or other crimes, and are advocates throughout the court system. They also have counseling and education services. Hot Line Phone numbers: Sexual Assault: 610-692-7273; Other Crimes: 610-692-7420. Bill’s Email: Billatocean@yahoo.com
- **Laurie Price** (Against All Odds Women’s Ministry) told us that they reach out to women, who are distraught and need of spiritual support. Contact: 609-331-3730 or Email: airforcemom.446822@gmail.com or call Tracy at 267-884-2099

- **Michael Hackman** (CCDCD) told us that he is the Chester County Decade to Doorway's Administrator. By July there will be a Single Point of Contact for a homeless situation and supportive services will be provided to help a person obtain "Housing First." The latest homeless count in Chester County is over 630 persons. Check out the web site at: www.decadetodoorways.org Email: mhackman@chesco.org
- **Kate Uhler** (Kennett Area Community Service/KACS) told us that she is a newly hired Case Manager to help with utility and rental financial assistance. She also will be working with Single Point of Contact. Email: kate-kacs@comcast.net
- **Myriam Ruager** (ED of CC Women's Services/Pregnancy Care Medical Center) told us that they are moving into the Kennett area at 645 E. Baltimore Pike, Kennett Square. Phone: 610-444-4851. There will be an Open House on April 11, 6-9pm with Dedication Ceremony at 6:30pm. Email: myriam@ccwsmedical.org
- **Neva Riviere** (Kendal resident) told us that she is new to this area, but is learning quickly how to become a volunteer through Anne Humes, Tom Hoehle and now a Bridging meeting. Email: neva.riviere@verizon.net
- **Liz Richner** (Herr Foods) told us that she is always looking for volunteer opportunities for Herr Employees and ways to help the community. Email: richners@gmail.com
- **Andrea and Melissa Pacella** (SILO/Serving, Inspiring, Loving, Others) told us about SILO, the non-profit they have formed located at 13 North Third St. #172, Oxford, PA 19363. They hold a monthly community meal and do community outreach. Phone: 610-932-7500. Email: andrea@oxfordsilo.com or melissa@oxfordsilo.com
- **Matri Johnson** (Home of the Sparrow) told us that this agency provides housing and supportive services to homeless and low-income women who want to improve their lives and become self-sufficient. They are hosting a Single Mother's Conference at Henderson High School in West Chester on 4/13/13. They also are sponsoring a "Get-It-Done-Day" with a One-Stop-Shop for community services and support at the Melton Community Center. Email: mjohnson@homeofthesparrow.org
- **Margarita Garay Zarco** (LCH) told us that La Comunidad Hispana (LCH) provides health services through Project Salud, social services and ESL/GED classes. They will host a 2013 Pro Bono Citizenship Information Session at LCH, 731 W. Cypress T., Kennett Square, PA 19348 on 4/3/13 at 5pm. For information call: 610-444-7550. Email: mgarayzarco@lchps.org
- **Guillermo Rivera** (Alliance for Better Housing) told us that they are now merging with Pathstone. They are working on affordable town homes in Oxford. They also provide first time owner counseling services. Email: grivera.abh@verizon.net

- **John McKean** (Habitat for Humanity) told us that they are busy building homes in Coatesville and West Grove is next. Volunteers always needed. Email: john@hfhcc.org
- **Janine Kreiss** (The MCH/Family Center) told us that they are under the umbrella of MCH and provide services to families with children 0-5 yrs. with parenting and readiness for school. They also have two other programs: "The Fatherhood Initiative" and Young Mom's (ages 15-24yrs.) Parenting Support. Email: jkreiss@ccmchc.org
- **Jaime Magana Lopez** (Community) told us about Alcoholics Anonymous meetings held in Spanish at Avondale Center, 29 Gap Newport Pike, Avondale 19311 Rt. 41. They meet on Saturday, Sunday, Monday and Thursday from 7-9pm. Telephone: 302-650-3353, or 484-401-1787 or 302-559-9998 or 610-226-7516.

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

- **Jessie Cocks** (Community) told us about the successful HIV Awareness event for young women for Hub of Hope. She also told us about Playback Theatre "Yes....AND". They will provide community sessions on request. Performance for "New Beginnings" Playback Theatre, 1200 Callowhill, Phil. PA on 5/19/13 at 2pm. Email: jessiecocks@yesandplayback.org or jessiecocks@verizon.net
- **Grant Johnson** (Church of the Open Door) told us about JAVA and JAMZ Community Benefit/Fundraiser on 5/10/13 7-9pm at 210 S. Broad St., Kennett Square. Kennett Community Choir to perform. And he reminded us of the Social Justice Film, "A Better Life" to play at Church of the Open Door on 03/16/13 at 7pm. Email: grantjohnson19@comcast.net
- **Holly Favino** (CC Women's Services) brought her two sons to the meeting to experience a community process. She also has been recently hired to work part-time at CC Women's Services as a counselor. Email: holly@ccwsmedical.org
- **Dave Haradon** (The Longwood Rotary) told us as a representative of the Rotary that there is a dynamic group of over 80 members, who want to get involved in community projects and they also have money for grants---contact him for money and volunteers! Email: daveharadon@gmail.com
- **Tom Hoehle** (Kennett Area Senior Center) is looking for volunteers to participate in inter-generational activities, and volunteers for the new program Neighbors in Action; helping seniors and others, who need supportive home services. Email: thoehle@kennettcenter.org
- **Claudia Turner** (Pathstone/Migrant Head start) told us that they are completing their Headstart session 3/29/13. They are taking applications for October for agricultural low-income families, living in the area under three years. The program also serves Oxford area and provides busing. Email: cturner@pathstone.org

- **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. Information may be accessed on the following web site: www.arcofchestercounty.org/arconnections. If you would like weekly email notices, or want to inform Casey of upcoming events, email: bps461@msn.com
- **Matt Reeder** (Senator Dominic Pileggi) told us that he is the community relations person and would like to offer community invitations to the Senator and present any issues of concern. Email: mreeder@pasen.gov
- **Rob Ellis** (Good Neighbors Home Repair) told us that they are open for referrals for low-income home owners, who need free home repair services to help keep their home, safer, dryer. Email: rwe@comcast.net
- **Joan Holliday** (Public Health Nurse) told the group about the Faith Community Nurse Congregational Health Ministry Development Workshop to be held at Downingtown United Methodist Church, 751 E. Lancaster Ave, Downingtown on 4/27/13 from 9am to noon. Please get the word out to your respective churches---this provides guidance in how to set-up a health ministry within a congregation. Email: dochollisv@aol.com
- **Jeanne Searer** (Community) told us about planning for Cinco de Mayo Festival (first Sunday in May) with the Casa Guanajuato group; they need volunteers and new members to the group, which celebrates the Mexican culture. Jeanne puts on weight loss classes and will be starting TREVOSE program soon. Email: jeannecrew491@hotmail.com
- **Izzy Gonzalez** (CCDCD) told us that he participated in the Point to Point Count for homeless in the area and that his group helped to identify thirteen persons on the streets. They were able to secure medical help for two of them. He explained that our laws protect this group, even when they are not documented. He encouraged persons to get involved in Decades to Doorways. Email: igonzalez@chesco.org

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

- Casey Jones “bridged” with Izzy Gonzalez, Kate Uhler, Jaime Magana Lopez, CCDCD, Against All Odds and others around information for the E-Update website.
- Jessie Cocks “bridged” with the three Oxford attendees around SILO, Crime Victims, LCH and others.
- Tom Hoehle “bridged” with Matt Reeder around volunteering at the KASC.
- Joan Holliday “bridged” with Church of the Open Door, Church of the Advent and 2nd Baptist Church with flyers for Congregational Health Ministry Workshop. She “bridged” with Michael Hackman and Tina Butler around funding for His Mission. She “bridged” with Casey Jones around supporting a “Bridging” in Coatesville and with “Against All Odds” for referrals.
- Esther Rochester and Janine Kreiss “bridged” with Tom Hoehle around having a picnic in Anson B Nixon Park for our September Bridging meeting on 9/11/13.

- Dave Haradon and Rob Ellis “bridged” around their work days at Dupont Company in 1974, recognizing that they both were working there at that time; not sure if they knew each other.
- Andrea Pacella “bridged” with Good Neighbors and His Mission around ways for SILO to support the efforts.
- Claudia Turner had a handful of “bridges” with SILO, MCH, AA, Crime Victims, CC Women’s Services etc. She spoke about Anne Humes and how wonderful her volunteer help with the Migrant Headstart children, as she brings crafts on a weekly basis to work with the children. Also, Claudia recognized Neva Rievere for her knitting of sweaters, scarves and mittens with the Kendal Knitting Group.
- Margarita Garay Zarco “bridged” with The Family Center, CC Women’s Services, Joan Holliday, KACS and others around Citizenship workshop.
- Casey Jones requested interested volunteers to help him and others set-up a “Bridging” in Coatesville. Tom Hoehle, Joan Holliday and Jeanne Searer will be supporting this effort.

One Recent Bridging Story: Joan Holliday was at His Mission giving flu shots and learned that their large stand-up freezer had just broken and was beyond repair. Joan emailed Dave Haradon, who took the lead, bringing the request to The Longwood Rotary, to his 55-Plus Community and to Lowe’s. With monetary donations and Lowe’s providing the freezer “at cost”, His Mission has a shiny new stand-up freezer, as of this week.

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

Bridging the Community was held on Wednesday, May 08, 2013 at The Centre for Vibrant Living, 331 E. State St., Kennett Square, PA 19348. Thirty-two community members joined in an art-inspired “bridging” process on a spring-shower evening.

This is the 89th Bridging meeting! (Group has been meeting since May 1998 bi-monthly)

The next meeting will be held on Wednesday, July 10, 2013 at 6pm at His Mission, 342 E. Birch St., Kennett Square, PA 19348. The Annual Potluck (No-Infrastructural Tom Hoehle Inspiration) will start at 6pm, where everyone shows up with some healthy food to grill, or serve as a side dish. Meeting will begin at 7pm. Each and all are welcome to one or both events. Email Joan Holliday with questions dochollisv@aol.com

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Tom Hoehle 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 and encouraged each person to carry the framework and principles forward in their community lives for the next two months. **The overall context is our living philosophy, reflected by our land's energy/spirit - 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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Karen Duncan and Doreen Moore introduced The Centre for Vibrant Living. They have been in Kennett Square for two years and at this location for one year. Their mission is to offer inspiration for transformation of body, mind and spirit. They hold one-on-one and group sessions/classes. They offer Reiki, Nutrition Classes (Specialty/Raw Food), Meditation, Exercise, Yoga, and more. Their store features local crafts and art. They host a local artist and musician for First Fridays. They support local non-profit fundraisers. Email: centreforvibrantliving@gmail.com

Karen led us in a 7/7 meditation to center us for the meeting.

New attendees introduced themselves:

- **Sara Bechdel** (PA Farm worker Project) told us that a legal advisor comes from Philadelphia and offers legal assistance at the Kennett Area Senior Center for employment problems and housing for migrant farmworkers. They also offer low-income tax education and assistance. Email: sbechdel@philalegal.org

- **Maria R. Mata** (MCHC Kennett Family Center) told us that they offer parenting support in the home (twice a month). They prepare children under 5 years of age for school, so that each child will reach his/her full potential. Email: mmata@ccmchc.org
- **Greg McCarthy** (Flight Instructor) told us that he enjoys seeing Kennett Square from the air. He invited us to two events at the Toughkenamon Airport on Newark Road. There will be an Open House 6/6-7/13 with food, antique cars and introduction to the airport. The Annual Air Show will take place on 8/24-25/13. A Pancake Breakfast is served at 8am and the events are open most of the day. Email: gregory.mccarthy1@gmail.com
- **Sandy Mayer** (Community Art Advocate) told us that she is passionate about bringing more art to Kennett Square, with outdoor sculpture. She is working on developing an Arts Coalition. She is active in Historic Kennett Square and Kennett Area Restaurant and Merchant Association (KARMA.) Email: smconverge@gmail.com
- **Carlie Numi** (Kendal Communities) told us that she will be retiring from her official work and will be looking for a meaningful volunteer role. Her current talents are administrative skills; however, she may want to try something new. Email: carliedick@aol.com
- **Melanie Weiler** (KACS/Food Cupboard) told us that she is the new ED and is happy to take on this vital community role. She reported an increase of persons needing food due to “food insecurity” and always is looking for food and monetary donations. www.KACSONline.net Email: melanie-kacs@comcast.net
- **Dave Gregory** (ED The Garage Youth Center) told us that this was his first attendance at Bridging and saw many of his community partners in the room. He expressed appreciation and invited others to visit The Garage Youth Center on Union Street, Kennett and to consider volunteering. Email: david.gregory@garageyouthcenter.org

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

- **Anne Humes** (Kendal Communities) followed through on a promise to provide new greeting cards to the Kennett Area Senior Center and presented them to Ken Schreffler. She also offered free volunteer help for crafts for 6-12 year old youth during this summer. Phone: 610-388-1199.
- **Ken Schreffler** (Neighbors in Action) told us that this is an intergenerational program designed by the KASC in partnership with the Chester County Dept. of Aging Services to address the needs of elderly residents, as well as people of any age. They provide assistance with transportation to medical and other appointments, grocery shopping and trips to stores; light housekeeping; minor home repairs and maintenance; yard work and companionship visits. There is a reasonable membership fee. Volunteers provide services, and when the request goes beyond the scope of a volunteer, members are matched with pre-approved vendors. Email: kschreffler@kennettcenter.org

enrolled---GET IT DONE! There will be many resources available at one site to facilitate access to services. Email: mjohnson@homeofthesparrow.org
Matri presented Art-Reach, which provides opportunities for traditionally underserved audiences to experience the arts with reduced fees. They also work with individual artists to provide low-cost art making experiences. There will be an Information Session on 5/14/13 at 9am at CCCommunity Foundation, 28 W. Market Street, West Chester, PA
Contact: Julie Singer at jsinger@art-reach.org or call 215-568-2115 x5.

- **Cecilia Arce** (MCH) told us about Healthy Start; a service provides bi-lingual home visitors as well as help with Medicaid and DPA applications to support pregnant women with the goal of preventing infant mortality. Referrals and financial support always welcome. Email: carce@ccmchc.org
- **Rob Ellis** (Good Neighbors Home Repair) told us that they are open for referrals for low-income home owners, who need free home repair services to help keep their home, safer, dryer. They run a summer camp for youth, involving them in home repair. They welcome volunteers and financial support. Email: rwe@comcast.net
- **Dave Haradon** (The Longwood Rotary) told us as a representative of the Rotary that there is a dynamic group of over 80 members, who want to get involved in community projects and they also have money for grants---contact him for money and volunteers! They meet on Thursdays a 6:30am at Longwood Gardens. New members welcome! He also told us about the Kennett Rotary, which meets Tuesdays at noon at La Verona. They also have volunteers and financial resources. Email: daveharadon@gmail.com
- **Jeanne Searer** (Community Volunteer) told us that the Cinco de Mayo Celebration on the streets of Kennett was very successful. Over 20,000 attended and the police reported not one single law enforcement incident. Casa Guanajuato with 15 members pulled this event off. They would like more community members and are eager to put on events, which celebrate the Mexican culture.
Jeanne told us about the Spring Clothing fundraiser of upscale women's clothes on 5/20/13 and Summer Yard Sale on 6/8/12 from 8am to 3pm, and there also will be a sale in September. Email: jeannecrew491@hotmail.com
- **Tom Hoehle** (Kennett Area Senior Center) told us that he had \$15 tickets (\$7.00 for children under 10 years, and free under three) available for A TASTE OF ITALY Spaghetti Dinner to be held on 5/11/13 from 3-7pm. Eat-in or Take-out.
Email: thoehle@kennettseiorcenter.org
- **Salvador Villicana** (Community Member) previously worked for Chester County Health Department in HIV Testing Outreach. He is looking for employment. He is bi-lingual and has skills in community outreach and promotion. Phone: 610-444-3128.
- **Nancy Rodriguez** (Crime Victims Center) told us that their agency provides support for victims of crime. Email: NancyR@cvcofcc.org

- **Cathy Brison** (Kennett Area YMCA---Church of the Open Door) told us that the YMCA will be involved with the Kennett Run on 5/18/13. Church of the Open Door will hold a free *Java and Jams* on 5/10/13 from 7-9pm featuring three groups, one being The Kennett Community Choir. Donations to be given to The Kennett Food Cupboard. Email: Cabrisonmm@aol.com
- **LaToya Myers** (Historic East Linden Project) introduced us to her daughter Payton. She told us about the Annual Gala Fundraiser that Historic East Linden Project is holding on 5/11/13, starting at 10:30am for a brunch and tour of the street. Tickets are \$50, covering the attendee and resident attendance. Email: lmyers@historiceastlindenproject.org
- **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. If you would like weekly email notices, or want to inform Casey of upcoming events, email: bps461@msn.com
He also told us about the Barnabas Group to support the unemployed. Meetings held on Monday nights, starting with dinner at 6:15pm and networking from 7-8:30pm. Participants may attend either or both events. Held at Calvary Fellowship Church, 95 W Devon Drive, Downingtown. All Chester County residents are welcome.
- **Joan Holliday** (Public Health Nurse) told the group about ACTIVATE Kennett Square; a grassroots initiative to support the county-wide initiative with the motto: *Eat smarter, move more and create a supportive environment*. This group is promoting a unifying theme for this summer: *Healthy Plate---Healthy Living*. The graphic design class at KHS is developing a graphic logo to be used at all community events. There will be a table at the Kennett Farmer's Market promoting the theme with educational materials and youth activities. The Kennett Food Cupboard is promoting the theme and several other entities. The nutritionists and wellness providers are coming on board to provide a unified message and to work together as a whole. Email: dochollisv@aol.com
- **Kathy Hrenko** (Camp Dreamcatcher) told us that they partner with Kennett School District to provide after-school enrichment for Kennett Middle School Youth. They are looking for volunteers to share their talents and interest for a 6 week session/1 hour a week. They have made "bridges" through Bridging meetings and have recruited volunteers. Email: khrenko@comcast.net or afterthebell@kcsd.org
- **Kate Uhler** (Kennett Area Community Service/KACS) told us she is a Case Manager to help with utility and rental financial assistance. She also will be working with the preventing homelessness initiative. The Food Cupboard has an open position for half-time Case Manager and half-time Food Manager. Email: kate-kacs@comcast.net
- **Matri Johnson** (Home of the Sparrow) told us about Get It Done Day! This event will be held on 5/15/13 from 9am to 7pm at Charles A. Melton Arts and Education Center, 501 E. Miner St., West Chester, PA. The purpose: to get connected, get screened, get

- **Karen Duncan** (Centre for Vibrant Living) will offer a class, Transition to Healthy Living 5/13/13 through 6/10/12 from 7:30-8:30pm \$15/class. The classes will include nutrition, food combining, breath and lifestyle. Email: centreforvibrantliving@gmail.com

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

- Ken Schreffler made 5 bridges. He “bridged” with Kate Uhler around the need for transportation for some of the Food Cupboard clients; Matrie Johnson for referrals; Maria Mata for Family Center client needs; Casey Jones, Gregory McCarthy and Anne Humes for volunteers.
- Sandy Mayer “bridged” with Jeanne Searer around developing a larger event around Dia de los Muerto/Day of the Dead/11/01/14, a Mexican Celebration working with Casa Guanajuato and the art community.
- Joan Holliday “bridged” with Jeanne Searer around educating the Bake Sale contingent about healthy desserts and promoting *Healthy Plate*----*Healthy Living*. She “bridged” with Dave Haradon around funding Historic East Linden Project and Neighbors in Action. She “bridged” with Anne Humes to attend the GALA on East Linden Street. She passed out the healthy dessert; date and coconut balls provided by Doreen Moore.
- David Haradon “bridged” with Casey Jones around his E-Update and with Dave Gregory about picking up a check for 10 Garage Youth Center to participate in The Kennett Run.
- Kate Uhler “bridged” with Ken Schreffler around Neighbors in Actions. She “bridged” with Sarah Bechdel around support in addressing sub-standard housing. She “bridged” with Good Neighbors to better understand how to make referrals and with Maria Mata and Cecilia Arce around support for their clients.
- Salvador Villicana “bridged” with Nancy Rodriquez from Crime Victims around services.
- Casey Jones “bridged” with Kate Uhler, Dave Haradon, Melanie Weiler, Matrie Johnson, LaToya Myers and Ken Schreffler around E-Update.
- LaToya Myers ‘bridged” with Anne Humes around providing crafts on East Linden Street for their summer youth programs. She also “bridged” with Tom Hoehle to purchase tickets for the Spaghetti Dinner.
- Karen Duncan “bridged” with the community by offering to display flyers of upcoming events at the store.

Community members then stayed on for a spell to continuing “bridging,” Thanks to our hosts!

Bridging the Community was held on Wednesday, July 10, 2013 at His Mission, 342 E. Birch St., Kennett Square, PA 19348. The Annual Potluck (No-Infrastructural Tom Hoehle Inspiration) started at 6pm, where everyone showed up with food to grill, or a nutritional side dish. Meeting began at 7pm. Fifty-two community members joined in the picnic and “bridging” process on a warm, but pleasant, non-rainy evening. Pastor Bob Thomas led us in a prayer to honor the site. **This is the 90th Bridging meeting! (Group has been meeting since May 1998 bi-monthly)**

The next meeting will be held on Wednesday, September 11, 2013 at 7pm at The Kennett Police Station at the corner of N. Broad St. and East Linden., Kennett Square, PA 19348.

Minutes of *Bridging* meetings are 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.

Dave Haradon (new facilitator) welcomed everyone and gave an overview of the structure of a Bridging meeting. He announced that it was Leon Spencer’s birthday today, so we called Leon and all sang, “Happy Birthday” from Bridging. He also asked three people to tell us how they found out about this gathering. Email: daveharadon@gmail.com

Jeanne Searer gave an overview of the Framework and Guiding Principles for Bridging. **The overall context is our living philosophy, reflected by our land's energy/spirit - 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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We will focus on the potential side----not the issue side

We will keep it a process---not a program with infrastructure

We will value each person’s contribution---not focused on formal hierarchy

Tina Butcher, Director of His Mission told us that the Homeless Shelter was opened by her mother, Margaret Valentine in 1982. This house has been open to the homeless “to help them get back on their feet”, as well as provide two meals a day to any community member in need. They will be moving on to become a Transitional Housing Model. They will work in concert with Decade to Doorways, a national initiative, to help homeless get located at a stable home, then provide wrap-around services for the person/family.

Contact Email: tamikabutcher@yahoo.com

New attendees introduced themselves:

- **Suzie Cornell** (Victoria Gardens) told us that she is a retired West Chester elementary school teacher and is looking for volunteer opportunities in Kennett.
Email: suzcornell@verizon.net
- **Rev. Susan Worrell** (Church of the Open Door and Addictions Counselor) would like to learn about the Kennett resources and offer help in the Kennett community.
Email: susan.worrell@comcast.net

- **Helen Wagner** (Kennett Community) told us that she is retired and is looking for meaningful community volunteer work. Email: wagnerhs@verizon.net
- **Rev. Neil Gutmaker** (New Pastor of Church of the Open Door) told us that he would like to learn more about Kennett to help the church outreach. Email: pastor@umcod.org
- **Claire McCullough** (MCH) told us that she works at the Healthy Start Office at 625 E. Cypress St., Kennett. She helps clients sign up for SNAP, Cash Assistance and CHIP. Email: cmccullough@ccmchc.org
- **Clara Vazquez** (Domestic Violence) told us that she is located at LCH, 731 W. Cypress St., Kennett. She has office hours on Tues., Weds., and Friday. Also, there is a job opening for a Spanish Speaking Advocate in Phoenixville. Email: cvazquez@dvccc.com
- **Deb Schmittle** (Church of the Advent Outreach Committee) told us that there will be a regular attendee at Bridging from their committee, as they want to know the volunteer opportunities for their church. Email: Deb.Schmittle@gmail.com
- **Lorraine Anderson** (Retiree---Founder of first Charter School in PA) told us that she is looking for volunteer opportunities and ways to be involved in Kennett, as she only knows West Chester from her previous work. Email: lorrainemarieandersen@gmail.com
- **Hilda Grauman** (Kendal Communities) told us that she works as a volunteer Spanish interpreter for CVIM. She told the group that Community Volunteers in Medicine offers health care for working low-income persons without insurance. There are two job positions open, which involve Spanish interpreting and teaching nutrition to diabetic clients. They especially need a bi-lingual receptionist for Monday mornings from 9-12pm. Email: hgrauman@verizon.net
- **Miguel Lopez** (West Grove Community) had his wife explain that he has been in the area for 15 years and just now has brought his wife, Carla Ceballos and his son, Omar Lopez to join him. They are living with his sister. They would like to find an apartment in West Grove/Avondale area. He has appreciated the help of Dora Navarro and Kennett Area Community Services. Email Contact is Kate Uhler at: kate-kacs@comcast.net
- **Carolina White** (Crime Victims) told us that she is an Advocate for Crime Victims. She also is a realtor for Beiler Campbell and would like learn about resources in the area. Email: mendozacarola@hotmail.com
- **Janet Cordova and Cristina Herrera** (Pathstone) are attending the meeting to learn of community resources. Pathstone offers career training for agricultural workers, who would like to develop different skills. Email: jcordova@pathstone.org; cherrera@pathstone.org

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

- **Kate Uhler** (Kennett Area Community Service/KACS) told us she is a Case Manager to help with utility and rental financial assistance. She also will be working with the preventing homelessness initiative. Email: kate-kacs@comcast.net
- **Sandy Mayer** (Community Art Advocate) told us that she is working with Kennett Area Art Alliance. She is looking for volunteers, who will help hang art in Kennett business windows. The Art Alliance is using space at the American Legion. She is delivering two messages from the Legion: 1) they are looking for community veterans and have resources to help. 2) they are looking for more members to join the legion. They also have a folk singer every Friday night through August from 7-9pm. Email: smconverge@gmail.com
- **Jeanne Searer** (Community Volunteer & Casa Guanajuato) As a result of the last Bridging meeting, Casa Guanajuato is working with The Kennett Area Art Alliance to create an event on November 1st, Dia de los Muerto/Day of the Dead, a Mexican Cultural Celebration. Email: jeannecrew491@hotmail.com
- **Mary Anderson** (Kennett Underground Railroad) told us that there will be a re-enactment of a true story at the Barnard House on Pocopson Founder's Day Picnic on 9/15/13. They need actors and actresses. Anyone can play black or white roles. There will be 2 rehearsals. Contact Mary at KACS at: 610-444-4819
- **Joan Holliday** (Public Health Nurse) told the group about ACTIVATE Kennett Square; a grassroots initiative to support the nation-wide initiative with the motto: *Eat smarter, move more and create a supportive environment*. This group has partnered with Dennis Melton, local architect, to conduct a "Town Walk-ability Audit on Tuesday, 7/16/13. Meet in front of The Kennett Borough Building. We would like participation from a broad spectrum of the community. Please join the effort. Email: dochollisv@aol.com
- **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. If you would like weekly email notices, or want to inform Casey of upcoming events, email: bps461@msn.com
- **Kathy Hrenko** (After the Bell) told us that they partner with Kennett School District to provide after-school enrichment for Kennett Middle School Youth. They are looking for volunteers to share their talents and interest for a 6 week session/1 hour a week. Next session is: 9/24/13 thru 10/31/12. Email: khrenko@comcast.net or afterthebell@kcsd.org
- **Tom Hoehle** (Kennett Area Senior Center) told us about Neighbors in Action, an intergenerational program designed by the KASC in partnership with the Chester County Dept. of Aging Services to address the needs of elderly residents, as well as people of any age. This service provides assistance with transportation to medical and other

appointments, grocery shopping and trips to stores; light housekeeping; minor home repairs and maintenance; yard work and companionship visits. There is a reasonable membership fee. Volunteers provide services, and when the request goes beyond the scope of a volunteer, members are matched with pre-approved vendors. **They need referrals and volunteers!** He also told us about the Assisted Senior Program, a form of Day Care for seniors who need support, but not medical care. And, KASC will hold their annual Fundraiser on 8/18/13 at the Red Clay Room. Tickets are \$50 each. Email: thoehle@kennettseiorcenter.org (for tickets); kschreffler@kennettseiorcenter.org (for Neighbors in Action); adiaz@kennettseiorcenter.org (for Assisted Senior Program.)

- **Matt Reeder** (Senator Dominic Pileggi) is the community relations person and would like to offer community invitations to the Senator and present any issues of concern. Email: mreeder@pasen.gov

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

- Suzie Cornell, her friend, and Helen Wagner “bridged” with Sandy Mayer around hanging art in town and the Children’s Art Show in the spring.
- Helen Grauman “bridged” with Clara Vasquez about volunteer for CVIM receptionist.
- Carolina White “bridged” with Kate Uhler from KACS for a site to hold Crime Victim’s office hours; with Kate around rental properties for KACS clients; and with Susan Worrell for counseling support of clients.
- Kate Uhler “bridged” with Hilda Grauman around services for clients; with Joan Holliday around rental support for Miguel Lopez family, with Alliance for Better Housing; with Tom Hoehle about Neighbors in Actions; with Susan Worrell for counseling services and Janet Cordova and Cristina Herrera around services for clients.
- Mary Anderson “bridged” with four persons, who would like to help out with UGRR re-enactment at the Barnard Home on 9/15/13.
- Claire Vazquez “bridged” with Susan Worrell for counseling services with domestic violence clients; with Christina Herrera around a job opening and Kate Uhler for services for clients.
- Joan Holliday “bridged” with Dave Haradon around including Historic Kennett Square in Town Walk-ability Audit and with Deb Schmittle about getting connected with Neighbors in Action to generate more volunteers.
- Kathy Hrenko “bridged” with Helen Wagner around volunteering at After the Bell; with Casey Jones around client budget meeting; with Sandy Mayer around After the Bell students creating art for the Day of the Dead cultural celebration 11/01/13; and with Tina Butcher around After the Bell students cooking another dinner at His Mission.
- Tom Hoehle “bridged” with Joan Holliday around two tickets to the KASC Fundraiser; with Mary Anderson around UGRR; and with Tina Butcher about providing lunches from KASC at His Mission for tenants.
- Casey Jones made 5 contacts for his E-Update and Calendar events

Community members then stayed on for a spell to continue “bridging.” A donation of \$85 was collected and given to His Mission. Thanks to our hosts!

Bridging the Community was held on Wednesday, September 11, 2013 at the Kennett Police Station at the corner of N. Broad St. and East Linden., Kennett Square, PA 19348. Forty-two ready community members joined in a moment of silence to honor those lost in 9/11 and then gave a salute to the American flag. **This is the 91st Bridging meeting! (This community process has been vibrant and lively since May 1998 bi-monthly)**

The next meeting will be held on Wednesday, November 13 2013 at 7pm at Liberty Market Place, Cypress St., Kennett Square, PA. (For Information Contact: Joan Holliday at dochollisv@aol.com or 610-717-2180)

Minutes of *Bridging* meetings are 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.

Dave Haradon, Facilitator of the Meeting, and **Jeanne Searer** welcomed everyone and gave an overview of a Bridging meeting. Email: daveharadon@gmail.com jeannecrew491@hotmail.com

Joan Holliday gave an overview of the Framework and **Jeanne Searer** shared the Guiding Principles for Bridging. **The overall context is our living philosophy, reflected by our land's energy/spirit - peaceful, progressive, inclusivity.** "Bridging" reflects this living philosophy. Articles about Kennett's work on The Path of Potential Web site: www.pathofpotential.org
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Officer Jack told us about the Kennett Police Force. There are 9 full-time Officers with 2 of those also doing some detective work. There are 4-5 part-timers. Jack thinks Kennett is unique because it has so many activities and festivals. He said that Kennett means one square mile in England, and that is how Kennett measures. Email: kspdlit@kennett.net

New attendees introduced themselves:

Jay Eaton (Oxford Arts Alliance) told us that Sandy Mayer invited him. The Art Alliance started up in 2008 and they would like to "bridge" with Kennett. They have helped the start-up of the Kennett Area Art Alliance. They also have some grant funds to spend in Kennett Square. They will be holding a Decorator Show House and Gardens from 10/4/13-11/3/13. They are looking for tour guide volunteers. Email:

oaa@zoominternet.net or nevermor@zoominternet.net

Ken Carraway (American Legion) told us that they have renovated portions of the building on the corner of Union and State St. and are encouraging more activities at this site. They also would like to locate veterans and develop more membership. Email:

Ken@Kencarraway.com

Cynthia Fannon (New Community Resident) told us that Esther Rochester invited her and she would like to become a volunteer. Email: Cynthia.moriarity@us-resources.com

Doug Nakashima (ED Kennett Area YMCA) invited us to view the 3.5 million dollar addition to the Kennett Area YMC and to join the activities. He praised **Deb Schmittle** for her interior design work and the mural in the hallway. He lives in the Borough of Kennett and wants to be supportive to the community.
Email dnakashima@ymcabwv.org

Amber Campman & Larry (Thresholds) told us about the volunteer training that will take place on 9/21/13 from 9-4pm at GSC Rm 149. Cost is \$35 and \$15 for seniors. Learn how to help prison inmates learn the Decision-Making process. Work with a prisoner 1-1 after the prisoners have a macro training.
Email: volunteer@thresholdschesco.org or acampman@chesco.org

Dr. Barry Tomasetti (Kennett Consolidated Schools Superintendent) told us that he cares about the community and wants to learn more. Email: btomasetti@kcsd.org

Mikey Glass (The Garage Youth Center) told us that she is the new Director and wants to work with the community. Email: info@garageyouthcenter.org or Call: 610-444-6464

Veronica (Kennett Area Community Services) told us that she is a new case manager and wants to learn more about the community resources. Email: veronica-kacs@comcast.net

Barbara Randolph (East Linden Street Resident) was an attendee of Bridging years ago and now is back to learn more about the community.

Mack Graham (Church of the Advent) came to learn more about the community.

Suzanne Pusey (Church of the advent) also an original attendee of Bridging is back to join the circle of community.

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

Beverly Bach (Kennett Area Arts Coalition Volunteer) told us that there will be an event at The American Legion on 10/31/13 at 3pm and 11/01/11 at 4pm for Dia de los Muerto/Day of the Dead, a Mexican Cultural Celebration. Casa Guanajuato has joined with the Kennett Arts Coalition, Kennett Library, and After the Bell to create a community-wide event for all to attend. If you would like to volunteer or provide materials for art display, or create an "altar." Contact Jeanne Searer at: jeannecrew491@hotmail.com or Sandy Mayer at: smconverge@gmail.com

Jackie Maas (ED of Tick Tock) 1) Invited community members to become Rotarians. 2) The Rotarians are volunteering this coming Saturday morning to pack lunches for Ride for Kids cause. She would drive interested volunteers. 3) Please make referrals to Tick Tock for day care for low-income and they will facilitate process. Fundraiser on 9/23/12. 4) Support The Flash Concerts. Check out their venue at: www.kennettflash.org
Email: ticktock@kennett.net

Mary Anderson (Kennett Senior Center and UGRR) told us that KASC will have a Treasure Barn Sale 9/14/13 8-4pm. Their Annual Crafts Showcase and Bazaar is 10/18/13 9-6pm and 10/19 9-2pm. She also said that she signed up volunteers at the last Bridging for a Re-enactment at the Barnard House on Pocopson Founder's Day Picnic on 9/15/13. Please try to attend. Phone at KACS: 610-444-4819.

Ken Schreffler (Neighbors in Action) told us that this is an intergenerational program designed by the KASC in partnership with the Chester County Dept. of Aging Services to address the needs of elderly residents, as well as people of any age. They provide assistance with transportation to medical and other appointments, grocery shopping and trips to stores; light housekeeping; minor home repairs and maintenance; yard work and companionship visits. There is a reasonable membership fee. Volunteers provide services, and when the request goes beyond the scope of a volunteer, members are matched with pre-approved vendors. They need volunteers. They now have 51 registered members. Email: kschreffler@kennettseiorcenter.org

Courtney Fahndrich (LCH) told us about the Vive tu Vida/Get Up! Get Moving! Health Fair in Anson B Nixon Park on Saturday, 9/28/13 from 9am-2pm with 5K Run. Everyone is welcome and they need volunteers. Email: cfahndrich@lchps.org

Joan Holliday (ACTIVATE Kennett Square) told about the activities and advocacy that this group have become involved with to promote their motto of "Eat Smarter, Move More and Create a Supportive Environment." Meetings held the 4th Wednesday of the month at Kennett Borough Building. Contact: dochollisv@aol.com

Clara Vazquez (Domestic Violence) told us that she is located at LCH, 731 W. Cypress St., Kennett. She has office hours on Tuesday, Wednesday, and Fridays. An *Eve of Remembrance and Recognition* is being held Tuesday, 10/01/13 at 6:30pm at The United Methodist Church, 129 S. High Street, West Chester, PA. They have a fundraiser on 10/14/13 at the Kennett Country Club. Email: cvazquez@dvccc.com

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 free event announcements included. If you would like weekly email notices, or want to inform Casey of upcoming events, email: bps461@msn.com He also encouraged us to go to the web site: www.healthcare.gov to learn about options for the Affordable Health Care Act, starting in October. LCH will be set-up to help community members navigate the system.

Kathy Hrenko (ED After the Bell) thanked everyone for their involvement in the middle school after school enrichment program. They will celebrate their 15th year! They always are looking for volunteers. Email: khrenko@comcast.net

LaToya Myers (Director of Historic East Linden Street) told us that the Study Buddies After-School Tutoring takes place at 300 E. Linden St., Kennett on Tues, Wed. and Thurs. from 4-6pm for elementary school children. They welcome volunteers. Email: lmyers@historiceastlindenproject.org

Janet Zeis (CC Emergency Services) offers presentations and free supplies for Disaster Preparedness for individuals and groups. There also are free CPR and First Aid courses being offered. Email: jzeis@chesco.org

Lauren Mendez (Together for Education) encouraged the group to get the word out for the need for volunteers. One-half hour in an elementary school as a mentor can make a real difference. Lauren was a TFED mentor, which led her to her employment at The Garage Youth Center. Email Jen Lewis at: jlewis@tfed.org

Claudia Turner (Pathstone) told us that they will be enrolling children again in this federally funded Day Care/Pre-School program, which runs from 6am-5pm, starting 10/2/13. The program is open to agricultural workers and migrants living in the US less than 3 years. Email: cturner@pathstone.org

Jessie Cocks was not present but offered the information of, "A Taste of Playback Theatre" to be held at Coatesville CYWA, 423 E. Lincoln Hwy, Coatesville, PA on 9/21/13 from 1-5pm. jessiecocks@yesandplayback.org or 484-888-6966.

Jeanne Searer (Community) Kennett Square Church of the Advent will hold Jazz Vespers as a fundraiser in **Phillie \$10** at the **Episcopal Cathedral, 3723 Chestnut St., Philadelphia, Pa 10104** that is Sept. 29 at 4p.m. Email: jeannecrew491@hotmail.com

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

- Joan Holliday "bridged" with Ken Carraway from The American Legion, who agreed to host our March 12, 2014 meeting. She "bridged" with Veronica and Cynthia Fannon around attending ACTIVATE Kennett Square meetings. She "bridged" with Jackie Maas, who will have her children create a walk for National Hunger and Homelessness Awareness Walk on 11/20/13. She "bridged" with Deb Schmittle, who agreed that Church of the Advent Face book page would welcome Bridging minutes.
- Jay Eaton "bridged" with two persons, who will help with Decorator Showcase. He also will pass out his cards, when we leave, with a \$5 off the Admission to the Showcase.
- Amber Campman "bridged" with Deborah Steeves from Legal Aid and with Doug from the YMCA around the Thresholds Program.
- Kathy Hrenko "bridged" with Janet Zeis about free First Aid and CPR courses, Jeanne Searer around After the Bell students involvement in the Day of the Dead and with Deb Schmittle around holding a 15 year anniversary with Church of the Advent, the site of their Founders,

- Casey Jones “bridged” with Joan Holliday around email notices; with several others for E-Update information.
- Deborah Steeves “bridged” with Clara Vazquez around helping clients have previous minor offenses expunged from their records and with Courtney Fahndrich from LCH and the monthly sessions that will be held to provide this support.
- Jackie Maas “bridged” with Courtney around Viva tu Vida, Joan Holliday around Walk for Hunger and Homelessness and Sue Pusey, a renewal of acquaintance.
- Ken Schreffler “bridged” with two possible volunteers for Neighbors in Action, Matt Graham and Cynthia Fannon and with Susan Pusey about keeping regular updates in Church of the Advent bulleting about Neighbors in Action.
- Claudia Turner “bridged” with Veronica from KACS enrolling families in Pathstone daycare/pre-school and with Lauren Gonzalez, anthropologist, who will volunteer at Pathstone and provide support to parents. She also “bridged” with Jay Eaton, who will pass on her day care information to Oxford Neighborhood Services and with Courtney Fahndrich around her employees volunteering for Vive tu Vida.
- LaToya Myers “bridged” with Cynthia Fannon and Beverly Bach to volunteer at Study Buddies and with Mikey Glass, to generate volunteers from The Garage Youth Center.
- Janet Zeis “bridged with Doug Nakashima, who identified the Kennett Area YMCA as a site with a generator for 30 days, which could be used in a serious local disaster.

Bridging the Community was held on Wednesday, November 13, 2013 at Liberty Place, The Market, Kennett Square, PA 19348. Forty-eight engaging community members joined to share a Bridging event in a "Community Gathering Place". **This is the 92nd Bridging meeting! (This community process has been vibrant and lively since May 1998 bi-monthly)**

The next meeting will be held on Wednesday, January 08 2014 at 7pm at American Legion Hall, corner of State and Broad St., Kennett Square, PA. (Basement door) For Information Contact: Joan Holliday at dochollisv@aol.com or 610-717-2180.

Minutes of *Bridging* meetings are 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.

Dave Haradon, Facilitator of the Meeting, and **Jeanne Searer** welcomed everyone and gave an overview of a Bridging meeting. Email: daveharadon@gmail.com jeannecrew491@hotmail.com

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

We will come from the heart---not an obligation

We will work for community---not personal agendas

We will focus on the potential side---not the issue side

We will keep it a process---not a program with infrastructure

We will value each person's contribution---not focused on formal hierarchy

Larry Bosley, LGB Properties and Owner of Liberty Place, told us that the building we were meeting in was Alvin's Department Store, built in 1948. Materials for the building came from Liberty Ship (Reason for the name Liberty Place), which shipped men and materials from US. to Europe. In late 1970, the building was purchased by Genesis Health Care Ventures and served as a General Data and Training Center. It was vacant from 2007-2010. LGB Properties then purchased it with the goal of creating a "community gathering place"; to help extend the business district of town and to create a type of Reading Marketplace, with quality vendors. It is a work in progress; about 85% of the space is accounted for. There still will be a Soft-Serve Ice Cream Booth, and an Ethnic Food Vendor. The basement is being renovated to accommodate 40-50 persons for special parties and events. Email: lbosley@lgbproperties.com

New attendees introduced themselves:

- Sage Windemaker (Child and Family Focus) told us that she is looking for foster parents in SCC. Her agency works with the foster care process. She also told us that they are collecting Christmas items and may have items that could be donated to the community, because that won't fit the ages of the families they are serving. Email: swindemaker@childandfamilyfocus.org
- **Rachel Rush** (WCU Graduate) told us that she is looking for work in the social work field in the area. She has done missionary work in the Philippines and also speaks some Spanish and French. Email: Rachel.R.Rush@gmail.com

- **Barbara Bolton** (Community) looking for meaningful volunteer opportunities. Has lived in Kennett since 1991. Email: barbarabolton@verizon.net
- **David Bolton** (WCU Research and Statistics Professor) is willing to help out agencies, who need help with survey development and evaluation. Email: dbolton@wcupa.edu
- **Mark Mattenheimer** (Community) would like to create a miraculous and magical Christmas event for children in our community of Chester County. The goal is to bring “Christmas” to kids that will have none. Email: mark.mattenheimer@gmail.com
- **Steve Warner** (Kennett Holiday Parade and Owner of The Kennett Inn) told us that the committee would like volunteers for the holiday parade, which will be held the Friday after Thanksgiving. Also, they would like more floats and welcome entries. Email: shwarner98@aol.com
- **Annie Simon** (The Garage at West Grove) told us that they always appreciate volunteers, programs and also getting involved in community events. Email: annie.simon@garageyouthcenter.org
- **Elyse Baccino** (Kennett Family Center) told us that she is a new hire, working in administration. This agency appreciates volunteers, as well will receive donations for Christmas toys for the children that they serve. They also have a Fatherhood Initiative along with parenting classes. Email: ebaccino@ccmchc.org
- **Barbie Spitz** (Innovation Homecare) told us that she is a new hire for Kaolin Workers, but also is promoting Innovations Home Care, which is looking for persons to provide home care to seniors. Email: barbie.spitz@gmail.com
- **Jane Roosevelt** (Longwood Performing Arts) told us that she is on the Kennett Holiday Parade Committee and encourages community members to attend and get involved. Her students perform in the parade. Email: longwoodperf@aol.com
- **Jan Geddes** (Owns the Brick Garage) told us that she too is on the Kennett Holiday Parade Committee and would carolers in different locations on the street before the parade. Email: packratsplace@aol.com; Phone: 484-881-1204
- **Judy Diner** (Community) and **Donna Murray** (ED Kennett Library) would like the community to come up with ideas for recording stories that have significance in our community. They have access, through the library system, a mobile recording studio. The project is called, “Story Core.” Contact them with any ideas at: jdiner1@aol.com or dmurray@ccls.org

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

- **Mikey Glass** (The Garage Youth Center) told us that there will be a Holiday Silent and Live Auction Fundraiser at The Garage, Union St., Kennett on 12/7/13 from 7-10pm. She also invites community volunteers to help with painting the walls of The Garage; starting at 1pm for preparation and 3-8pm with youth participation. Email: Michael.glass@garageyouthcenter.org Call: 610-444-6464
- **Claudia Turner** (Pathstone) told us that they have enrolled 48 children and have capacity for 88. This is a federally funded Day Care/Pre-School program, which runs from 6am-5pm. The program is open to agricultural workers and migrants living in the US less than 3 years. She has flyers to pass out to advertise. Email: cturner@pathstone.org
- **Joan Holliday** (CCHD Public Health Nurse) encourages the group to partner on events and leverage activities instead of holding singular events. An example of this: the *Mexican Day of the Dead* cultural event, which integrated Casa Guanajuato, Kennett Art Alliance and After the Bell Students. Joan is inviting community members to participate on a Hunger and Homelessness Awareness Walk with ACTIVATE Kennett Square, which promotes bringing a food items to contribute to the Kennett Food Cupboard, and exercising at the same time. Meet at Genesis Walkway on 11/20/13 at noon and walk through Anson B Nixon Park for 30 minutes, or meet at Anson B Nixon Park at 4pm for another walk. Check out: <http://www.rosegroupdining.com/ni/dd.asp?dd=yjprnp> to download a coupon to Applebee's on 11/18/13 to help donate 10% of proceeds to the Kennett Food Cupboard. Email: dochollisv@aol.com
- **Cathy Brison** (Kennett Area YMCA) told us that their members are donating food items for 60 Thanksgiving baskets and also have the Angel Tree for children's Christmas gifts. The MLK CommUNITY Breakfast Committee is trying to locate community residents, who attended the MLK Walk to Washington 50 years ago for input for the MLK CommUNITY Breakfast to be held on the celebrated 1/20/14. She will have tickets soon. Email: Cabrisonmm@aol.com
- **Rusty Jones** (Kennett Underground Railroad Center) told us that they are looking for a place to display their exhibit items and also a storage place. Email: LLJ412@aol.com
- **Jessie Cocks** (Community) told us about *A Taste of Playback Theatre* at Unitarian Congregation, West Chester, 501 S. High St. on 11/16/13; Kennett Friends Meeting, 125 W. Sickie St. on 12/7/13; and The Empowerment Corner, 2900 Concord Pike, Suite F, Wilmington, DE on 01/04/14. She also told us about the Quaker Fair at Kennett Friends Meeting on 11/23/13 from 9am to 2pm and World AIDS Day Gathering on 12/01/13 4-5:30pm at CYWA, 423 E Lincoln Hwy, Coatesville. Email: jessiecocks@verizon.net
- **Linda Thies** (Kennett Jewelers) told us that the Merchant's Association will be selling chances on a basket with high value items. The tickets are \$5 each or 3 for \$10. The proceeds will go to the Kennett Area Food Cupboard. The drawing will be 12/21/13.

They meet the 2nd Tuesday of the month and have full participation by the town merchants. Email: KSJLinda@comcast.net

- **Kathy Hrenko** (ED After the Bell) invited the community to get involved in volunteering in this enriching after-school program for middle school students. They always are looking for volunteers and ideas. Email: khrenko@comcast.net
- **Jeanne Searer** (Community) invited us to *Festival of the Lodgings* or "Las Posadas"; a Mexican tradition to prepare for Christmas at The Garage West Grove, 122 Rosehill Ave., West Grove, PA 19329. She also told us about the Craft Fair at the KASC on 11/20/13 from 9am to 2pm. On 12/8/13 there will be Celtic Lessons and Carols and Chili Dinner at Church of the Advent, Kennett at 4pm. Email: jeannecrew491@hotmail.com
- **Holly Favino** (Chester County Women's Center) 645 Baltimore Pike, Kennett helps women, who are pregnant and needing support. They have bi-lingual services and make referrals and provide parenting classes. They will provide ultrasound services after 12/6/13. Email: holly@ccwcmedical.org
- **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 free event announcements included. If you would like weekly email notices, or want to inform Casey of upcoming events, email: bps461@msn.com
- **Mary Anderson** (2nd Baptist Church) told us that her church, 132 S. Willow Street, Kennett will have a Free Spaghetti Dinner on 11/16/13 from 11am to 2pm for the community. Email the Pastor: marvinwilliams1960@verizon.net
- **Ken Schreffler** (Neighbors in Action) told us that this is an intergenerational program designed by the KASC in partnership with the Chester County Dept. of Aging Services to address the needs of elderly residents, as well as people of any age. They provide assistance with transportation to medical and other appointments, grocery shopping and trips to stores; light housekeeping; minor home repairs and maintenance; yard work and companionship visits. There is a reasonable membership fee. Volunteers provide services, and when the request goes beyond the scope of a volunteer, members are matched with pre-approved vendors. They need volunteers. They now have 51 registered members. Email: kschreffler@kennettseiorcenter.org
- **Kate Uhler** (KACS/Kennett Food Cupboard) told us about the service they provide to help prevent homelessness. Also there is a Ride for Health for low-income, which provides transportation to medical appointments; call Kate to help a client sign-up. Email: kate-kacs@comcast.net
- **Richard Carter** (Photographer) told about his involvement with After the Bell these past 7 years, due to hearing about it at Bridging. He would like to help with Video Productions now and would like to partner with someone in this field. Email: richardcarter@comcast.net or pamelacarter@comcast.net

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

- Cathy Brison “bridged” with Larry Bosley about a contact she can make with a person, who walked in the MLK March 50 years ago. She also “bridged” with several persons around the tickets for the MLK Breakfast.
- Joan Holliday “bridged” with Laurie Szoke who gave her the book, “Children of the Fields”, a book honoring a deceased community member, who promoted literacy. She also “bridged” with The Garage Youth Centers for youth participation in the Hunger and Homelessness Awareness Walk. She “bridged” with Jan Geddes around recruiting carolers for the Kennett Holliday Parade eve.
- Mark Mettenheimer “bridged” with Sage Windemaker around working to provide a magical Christmas for foster children and with Richard Carter around family photos for the children.
- Mary Anderson “bridged” with Sage Windemaker and Elyse Baccino around Christmas gifts for the children they serve.
- Casey Jones “bridged” with several persons around information for his E-Update or persons signing up to receive weekly email notices.
- Claudia Turner had many persons take her Pathstone/Head start flyers to get the word out. She also “bridged” with MCH, The Family Center, with a possible volunteer and with Donna and Judy around working with the “Core Story” idea.
- Mikey Glass “bridged” with Jane Roosevelt from Longwood Dance studio about some partnering and with Courtney Fahrnich for volunteering *Paint Night* at The Garage.
- Rusty Jones “bridged” with Larry Bosley, Dave Haradon and Steve Warner about possible sites/storages for UGRR exhibit items.
- Kathy Hrenko “bridged” with Jessie Cocks about “girl power” ideas for After-the-Bell programs. They will explore Playback Theatre to address bullying issues. She also “bridged” with Richard Carter around continuing his photography class, and with Anne Humes as a volunteer.
- Jessie Cocks “bridged” with Richard Carter around photography; with After the Bell, and with Casey Jones around E-Update.
- Ken Schreffler “bridged” with Judy Dinner and Donna Murray around the “Core Story” idea and recording stories of seniors, who attend the KASC. He also “bridged” with Barbara Bolton around the volunteer opportunities with Neighbors in Action and with David Bolton (through Barbara) around creating evaluation tools for NIA.
- Anne Humes from Kendal “bridged” with After the Bell for volunteering and with Theresa Bass around Study Buddies and a Christmas craft program for the students.