

Minutes from 2014 Meetings

January 8, 2014

March 12, 2014

May 14, 2014

July 9, 2014

September 10, 2014

November 12, 2014

Bridging the Community was held on Wednesday, January 08, 2014 at American Legion Hall, corner of State and Broad Streets, Kennett Square, PA 19348. Thirty-four hearty community members joined to share a Bridging event on a frigid cold winter night. **This is the 93rd Bridging meeting! (This community process has been vibrant and lively since May 1998 bi-monthly)**

The next meeting will be held on Wednesday, March 12, 2014 at 7pm at Friends Home, 147 W. State St., Kennett Square, PA. For Information Contact: Joan Holliday at dochollisv@aol.com or cell: 610-717-2180.

Minutes of *Bridging* meetings are on the web site: www.bridgingcommunity.com or there is 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

Jeanne Searer gave an overview of the Framework and Joan Holliday 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**

Ken Carraway (American Legion) told us that the difference between the American Legion and the VFW is the scope of their membership. The VFW is limited to combat zone veterans and the American Legion includes all those who have served in the military. The American Legion was founded in 1919 in America and the Legion started in Kennett Square in 1920 and the current building was built in 1922. For many years, the American Legion was the largest building in SCC. At one time, it provided space for the post office; a bowling alley; stage for town presentations; KHS gymnasium and YMCA programs. The American Legion meets once a month and supports veterans with financial and social support. They also rent out the upstairs room for parties and events. They would like to sponsor more community events. They also would like to locate veterans and develop more membership. Email: Ken@Kencarraway.com

The group then made a Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag, as this was the community process that was honored at this town site.

New attendees introduced themselves:

Beryl Goldman (Kendal Corporate Outreach) told us that she had an invitation to offer community members. She is organizing focus groups, in various national locations, to talk about aging and retirement, and would like to recruit a group between 10-15 persons

in the Kennett area. With the information collected, the hope is to provide information to government officials, as well as communities, about the services and support that will be needed for the future elder population. Email: bgoldman@kendaloutreach.org

Corinne Hyzny (Upland Country Day School) said that Sylvia Barrios invited her. This school has been in existence for 65 years, and it continues to look for ways to become involved in the larger community. Email: chysny@uplandcds.org

Erica Loizos (MCH/Healthy Start) told us that she helps provide services to prenatal, postpartum and children up to 2 years of age. The goal is to enter clients in early prenatal care services and to provide bi-lingual support with health care insurance and other educational services. Email: eloizos@ccmchc.org

Amy Lambert (LCH Senior Clinical Social Worker---She wore a green hat!) told us that LCH Health Clinic now has services to help assess mental health issues and provide counseling/or make referrals as needed. Email: alambert@lchps.org

Sue Mendenhall (Oxford HS Teacher) told us that she came to learn about *Bridging the Community* and ways Oxford students can become involved in volunteering. Email: smendenhall@oxford.k12.pa.us

Ranery Figueroa (Coventry Cares Outreach and Events Coordinator) told us that this medical insurance is one of the Medicaid choices. She is happy to participate in community events. She introduced her husband Carlos. Email: rxfigueroa@cvty.com

Tamara Wagner (CC Women's Services/Pregnancy Care Medical Center) told us that this agency located at 645 E. Baltimore Pike, Kennett Square, provides free pregnancy testing; parenting classes; and ultrasounds. Clients may earn points to purchase baby equipment. Email: tamara@ccwsmedical.org

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

Rachel Rush (Innovations Home Care) told us that she is a Poster Child for Bridging, as she was looking for work in the social work field in SCC area, when she attended the last Bridging meeting, and "bridged" with her current employer; Innovations Home Care. This service is a non-profit providing in-home service for seniors, who stay in their homes. She is looking for ways to extend and expand their services. Email: RRush@InnovationsHomeCare.org

Ken Schreffler (Neighbors in Action) told us that this program out of the Kennett Area Senior Center is set-up to provide a system of care for seniors and others, and that the program is supported by volunteers. They have 62 members and a bank of volunteers. When home services are more demanding, he would refer to Innovations Home Care. He is looking for individuals and groups, who would be willing to generate volunteers for this service. Email: kschreffler@kennettseiorcenter.org

Beverly Bach (Kennett Area Arts Coalition Volunteer) told us that she helps set-up the monthly art displays at The Sunrise Café. More businesses would like to have art exhibits; however they need more volunteers to manage the exhibits.

Email: beverlyb123@verizon.net & <https://www.facebook.com/KennettAreaArtsCoalition>

Cathy Brison (MLK Advocates) told us that the MLK CommUNITY Breakfast will take place on 1/20/14 from 8-10am at The Red Clay Room. Tickets are \$15 and the Speaker is Dr. Rev. Anita Powell. KHS and UHS students will be joining the Kennett Community choir this year. The MLK Advocates are sponsoring a “Does Class Matter” workshop on 3/21/14 from 5-8pm and Saturday, 3/22/14 from 8-rpm. Cost is \$25. George Lakey is the Facilitator. Email: Cabrisonmm@aol.com

Kate Uhler (Kennett Area Food Cupboard) told us that she helps community members, who have housing emergencies; heating and rent. The help is income-based. There have been more persons in need this year. Email: kate-kacs@comcast.net

Cathy Hrenko (After the Bell) told us that the next after-school KMS enrichment cycle will be held 1/21/14 through 2/17/14. Beyond teachers and assistants, they need adult volunteers to provide supervision on the bus from KMS to The Kennett Area YMCA for activities. Email: khrenko@comcast.net

Casey Jones (Transformation Initiative) told us that he is a “County Bridger” and obtains information from around Chester County to share through his publication of a weekly E-Update and Calendar of Events sent by email. 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

Matt Reeder (Senator Pileggi’s Office) told us that he will deliver messages to the Senator of needs and concerns. He also is a willing community volunteer. Email: mreeder@pasen.gov

Sue Ruzudlio (Candidate for PA State House Congress) told us that she continues to be an advocate for families and children with disabilities. She currently has concerns about two 57 year old men, who have housing issues. She is looking for resources for these cases. Email: srzrz@gmail.com

Rev. Neil Gutmaker (Pastor of Church of the Open Door) told us about the Challenging Conversations Series that will be taking place at Church of the Open Door, 210 S. Broad St., Kennett. Sunday, 3/2/14 from 3-4:30pm, Carol Hart Metzker will be the Speaker about Human Trafficking. Cost: Free. Email: pastor@umcod.org

Theresa Bass (President of Historic East Linden Street) told us that this non-profit organization provides after-school tutoring Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday from 4-5:30pm; they also provide a snack before study and a meal afterwards. In the summer they provide lunches and enrichment for the youth. She expresses the joy of working with the children and seeing them blossom and that others can have the same experience

by becoming a tutor/ "Study Buddy." Beverly Bach supported Theresa's message, who became a "Study Buddy", after hearing about it at a Bridging meeting, and is enjoying it very much. HELP also works on neighborhood processes to keep the street clean, safe and friendly. Email: trbass15@aol.com

Jeanne Searer (Community) told us that the Casa Guanajuato (Cultural Group) would like to expand their mission to include all Latino cultures. Their dream is to establish a Latino American Center, dedicated to the Arts, Culture and Education of our Community & its youth. She invites us to participate in a GALA "Casa de las Culturas" on 2/15/14 from 7-11:30pm at The Red Clay room. Cost for meal and dance: \$55.

Jeanne also invited us to Jazz Vespers at Church of the Advent on 1/26/14 at 4pm. Good will offering. Cost: \$55.00. Email: jeannecrew491@hotmail.com

Mikey Glass (The Garage Youth Center) invited us to visit The Garage and to participate in tutoring/mentoring etc., as well as to give ideas to the youth for participation in the community. Email: Michael.glass@garageyouthcenter.org

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

- Ken Carraway "bridged" with Susan Ruzudlio around the 57 year old veterans housing needs.
- Cathy Brison "bridged" with Neil Gutmaker around Challenging Conversation Series to share with her church. She "bridged" with Jeanne Searer around the GALA event and with Ranery Figueroa around Coventry Care services.
- Beryl Goldman "bridged" with Joan Holliday, David Haradon, Theresa Bass, Beverly Bach and Erica Loizos around being participants in the Focus Group related to aging and retirement.
- Ken Schreffler made five "bridges." He "bridged" with Beryl Goldman about obtaining Speakers for the KASC. He "bridged" with Sue Ruzudlio around her 22 year old son volunteering for Neighbors in Action. He "bridged" with Sue Mendenhall from Oxford about Helping Hands Youth Group volunteering for NIA in Oxford area. He "bridged" with Matt Reeder, who will be a volunteer for shoveling snow and yard work and Matt will also be an advocate for a person who needs a disability income.
- Joan Holliday "bridged" with Sylvia Barreiro Thomas, who purchased 3 MLK CommUNITY breakfast. She "bridged" with Kate Uhler and Izzy Gonzalez around supporting evicted residents in New Garden Township. She "bridged" with Amy Lambert from LCH Health Center around services that can be provided for our mutual clients. She "bridged" with Mikey Glass, encouraging her to have The Garage Youth Center youth create craft projects for Study Buddies.
- Jeanne Searer distributed 14 Spanish flyers for GALA and "bridged" with Elyse Baccino from the Kennett Family Center around Latino art.
- Theresa Bass "bridged" with Rachel Rush from Innovations about services for her mother and family.
- Cathy Hrenko "bridged" with Matt Reeder, who will look at schedule to determine if he can become a volunteer for After the Bell

- Neil Gutmaker “bridged” with Mikey Glass from The Garage Youth Center about the space that they provide for students. This was his first in-person contact.
- Esther Rochester was recognized for her faith attendance of most Bridging meetings, since its start.

After the meeting, some of the group stayed for a tour, led by Ken Carraway, of the American Legion basement room, that was recently renovated

Bridging the Community was held on Wednesday, March 12, 2014 at 7pm at Friends Home, 147 W. State St., Kennett Square, PA. Thirty-two hearty community members joined to share a Bridging event on a torrential rainy and cold weather evening. **This is the 94th Bridging meeting! (This community process has been vibrant and lively since May 1998 bi-monthly)**

The next meeting will be held on Wednesday, May, 14 2014 at 7pm at The Garage Youth Center, 115 S. Unions St., Kennett Square, PA. For Information Contact: Joan Holliday at dochollisv@aol.com or cell: 610-717-2180.

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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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Renna Van Oot (ED of Friends Home) This site was a school in 1847, then a private home, and purchased by the Quakers in 1905 and established as a non-profit. Since that time the Friends Home has provided older adults quality care and housing at a moderate price. They have Independent Living with some Assistance (Capacity for 55 persons) and Linden Hall for Skilled Nursing (20 beds.) They are celebrating their 115th anniversary. They are open to meetings and having volunteers join the residents in activities. Email: rvanoot@fhkennett.org

New attendees introduced themselves:

Chuck McDevitt (LCH) told us that he is a new employee in a marketing and public relations role at LCH since January 2014. He told us that LCH is a Federally Qualified Health Center, which provides health care, social services and GED education for low-income for all community members. They are having SCORE conduct a workshop for entrepreneurs who are developing businesses, Email: cmcdevitt@lchps.org

Wright Horne (Senior Advancement Officer at Friends Home) told us that he started this job two weeks ago. He will be helping with the planning and assuring that Friends Home is providing the services most needed. Email: whorne@fhkennett.org

Jerry Franklin Poe (CEO at Poetential Unlimited LLC) told us that he is a motivational speaker for youth, to promote reaching their potential. Check out his web site at: www.empoweryourstudents.com; Email: jfp@poebear.com

Lisa Lightner (The Arc of Chester County, Education Advocate for Southern Chester County) told us that she assists and advocates for low-income families of children with disabilities with the school educational plans. Also, ARC has a calendar of community events and a monthly email newsletter. Email: llightner@arcofchestercounty.org

Shirley Austin (Resident of Friends Home) told us that she has had an interesting life, being one of 17 children in a family that lived in Michigan next to Lake Superior. She met her Sailor husband during the WWII and had five children, with now, thirty grandchildren and three great grandchildren. She worked with the mentally disabled children for 23 years and with *Schools Without Failure* for 13 years. She loves art and crocheting and enjoys working with youth, even the “difficult ones”, so is open to volunteering. Email Renna, who will give her the message at: rvanoot@fhkennett.org

Emilie McIlvaine (Resident of Friends Home) told us that she loves people and loves to tell stories.

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

Latoya Myers (Program Director for Historic East Linden Street) told us about the *Free Young Mom's Conference* (Workshop style with educational break-outs) on Saturday, April 12, 2014 at Henderson High School, 400 Montgomery Ave, West Chester from 8am to 3:30pm. Recruiting Attendees. To register call: 484-876-1582
She also told us about a seminar on *Poverty and Homelessness* and mobilizing the faith communities. To be held on 3/29/14 from 8:30am to 2pm at Valley Forge Christian College, 1401 Charleston Rd., Phoenixville, PA 19460. To register call: 610-917-1463.
Latoya's Email: lmyers@historiceastlindenproject.org

Ethan Cramer (Development Director Historic East Linden Street) told us that they have been working as HELP for ten years and they are now in the process of changing their name and moving forward for the next ten years. They will be having a rededication of the street on June 7th and more information will be shared. HELP has been the effort that has “cleaned up the E. Linden Street---literally and figuratively.” They have an active *Study Buddies After School Program* on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday from 4-6pm.
They are holding a Flap Jack Fundraiser at Applebee's on 3/15/14 from 8-10am. Tickets \$10 adults and \$7.50 children. Email: ecramer@historiceastlindenproject.org

Cathy Brison (Community) told us that the Kennett Area YMC has a special on the Outdoor Pool membership for \$150 for the summer; offer ends on Sunday.
The MLK Advocates are sponsoring a “Does Class Matter” workshop on 3/21/14 from

5-8pm and Saturday, 3/22/14 from 9am-4pm. Cost is \$25. George Lakey is the Facilitator. Email: Cabrisonmm@aol.com

Meggie Shaeffer (West Grove Garage Youth Center Volunteer Mentor Coordinator) told us that there will be a training for volunteer mentors on 3/22/14 from 9:30-11:30am at the Kennett Garage Youth Center. They also would like community members to volunteer in W.G., offering enrichment activities. Email meggie.shaeffer@garageyouthcenter.org

Esther Rochester (Community) shared the idea that every person brings a picture of his/her family, current, or grandparents, grandparents to the next meeting, and we can learn more about each other's families. Joan Holliday will remind attendees with the next meeting notice on May 14th. Text: 610-335-5917

Deborah Steeves (Legal Aid) told us that Legal Aid is partnering with Holcomb Behavioral Health to provide education about how to help first time offenders clear their records in order to have better success in obtaining employment. The event will take place at the end of March at The Bayard Taylor Library in Kennett. Email: dsteeves@lasp.org

Elyse Baccino (Kennett Family Center) told us that the Kennett Family Center needs bi-lingual volunteers for a Dental Clinic on 3/26/14 from 5-8pm. They will also host an event on Parenting and need volunteers to care for the children on 4/9/14. They will host another event on 5/1/14 and need volunteers. Finally, they need volunteers for the Kindergarten Program that they provide in the summer every Tuesday and Thursday from 12:30-5pm. Email: ebaccino@ccmchc.org

Casey Jones (Transformation Initiative) told us about the weekly E- Update and Calendar of Events and the Face book Page at www.facebook.com/TransformationIni "Like" the page to receive email updates. Community non-profit groups may 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

Joan Holliday (CCHD/Public Health Nurse) told the group that Anna Anderson was now under Hospice and failing. She suggested we write a message to her on chart pad during the "bridging" time of the meeting. She praised her as the "Heart of Bridging", as a great community volunteer.

There will be at Chester County Faith Community Nurse Workshop for Faith Communities who would like to learn more about establishing a Health Ministry in conjunction with faith community nurses on Saturday, 4/12/14 at Downingtown Methodist Church. Contact Joan at: 610-717-2180 or Email: dochollisv@aol.com

Jeanne Searer (Community) Jeanne invited us to a Choir Concert with Tatnall Concert Choir at Church of the Advent on Saturday, 4/05/14 at 4pm. The concert will have a free will offering or canned food item donation for the Kennett Food Cupboard. She also told us about her Behavior Management Workshop for weight loss, starting 4/23/14 at the KASC at 8:30am every Wednesday for 6 weeks. Need to fill out application by 3/19/14.

Jeanne promoted *Cinco de Mayo* to be held on Sunday 5/04/14 from 12-6pm as an important community event for ALL community members to attend. In their planning, they are including all Latino Cultures and will continue to promote unity. She can be contacted to set-up at table at the festival. Email: jeannecrew491@hotmail.com

Pam Carter (Anson B Nixon Park) told us about the Red Clay Clean-Up on 3/29/14 from 8am to noon. Helpers of all ages are welcome at this annual rite of spring. Meet at the pavilion near playground. Gloves, bags and refreshments provided. Please register in advance at ansonbnixonpark@gmail.com or if you have questions you may email: jejordan@bva-rerecva.org.

Friends Meeting is holding a Market Day in the Spring at their site on Union Street. Community members, who have a craft to sell, may contact Sarah Kastriner for a table. Email: skastriner@comcast.net or Pam Carter at: pamelahcarter@comcast.net

Phil Gilbert (Crosslands) told us that he had engaged in a “bridging” process with Joan Holliday last fall. He had learned of a Crosslands’ resident, who wanted to engage with another community member, who spoke Spanish; this being her second language. Joan made contact with a Spanish-speaking community member who visits the Kendal resident frequently. Both are enjoying the language exchange. Phil is a Crosslands Community Contact for the broader Kennett community. Email: plgilbert@aol.com

Mary Lou Thomas (Crosslands and Previous Administrator of Linden Hall) told us that Crosslands is running a food drive in April for the Kennett Food Cupboard and they continue to be involved in the broader community. Email: mlthomaspa@aol.com

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

- Rachel Rush Rush (Innovations Home Care) told us that she ‘bridged’ with Cathy Brison about hiring Care Givers and with Theresa Bass about services offered at her agency for her mother. Email: RRush@InnovationsHomeCare.org
- Meggie Shaeffer “bridged” with Shirley Austin about being a volunteer with art and other crafts for The Garage Youth Center. She also ‘bridged’ with Kate Uhler about Kennett Food Cupboard services for the staff at West Grove Garage Youth Center and with Elyse Baccino about having Garage Youth volunteer at The Family Center.
- Mary Lou Thomas “bridged” with Renna Van Oot around the history of Linden Hall. She also “bridged” with Pam Carter about Crosslands residents have crafts to share on Friends Meeting Market Day.
- Theresa Bass “bridged” with Jerry Poe about presenting to Study Buddies and Legal Aid about services for East Linden Street residents.
- LaToya Myers “bridged” with Emily McIlvaine about “story-telling” with Study Buddies.
- Jeanne Searer “bridged” with fourteen persons around Cinco de Mayo information. She also “bridged” with attendees about Church of the Advent concert.

- Deborah Steeves “bridged” with David Haradon around Legal Aid services for a friend.
- Cathy Brison “bridged” with Joan Holliday around Anna Anderson, with Casey Jones with E-Update and with Rachel Rush around job opportunities.
- Ethan Cramer “bridged” with Lisa Lighter about services for Study Buddies.
- Casey Jones “bridged” with Lisa Lighter around cross-promoting ARC’s and Casey’s E-Update web sites.
- Joan Holliday “bridged” with Matt Reeder from Senator Pileggi’s Office around the best political contact for Obama Care and Immigration input. She also “bridged” with Jerry Poe with ideas around “bridging” his talents with the Kennett community. She helped “bridged” Rachel Rush with Cathy Brison and job opportunities. She “bridged” with Mary Lou Thomas about attending Inter Gen meeting at The Market at Liberty Place, State St., Kennett on 3/18/14 at 4pm to explore ideas about “bridging” elders with youth in a communing atmosphere. All are welcome!

The group lingered after the meeting ended, and continued to “bridge” onward and outward.

Bridging the Community was held on Wednesday, May 14, 2014 at 7pm at The Garage Youth Center, 114 S. Union St., Kennett Square, PA. Fifty-two community members joined in an evening of celebration and appreciation, honoring Joan Holiday's nursing retirement and her 68th birthday! **This is the 95th Bridging meeting! (This community process has been vibrant and lively since May 1998 bi-monthly)**

The next meeting will be held on Wednesday, July, 09, 2014 at His Mission, 342 E. South St., Kennett. This will be the Annual Tom Hoehle Community Picnic. Please arrive at 6pm with a dish to share or hot dogs to grill with buns for the picnic. Bridging meeting starts at 7pm. For information contact: Joan Holliday at dochollisv@aol.com or cell: 610-717-2180.

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

Joan Holliday announced that she did not receive the same email sent to all the attendees (via David Haradon) with an invitation to celebrate Joan's birthday and upcoming retirement on 5/30/14. This was the brainstorm of Esther Rochester, a long-time friend of Joan Holliday.

Information about the site we were meeting: The Garage Community & Youth Center was a vacant car garage until 2001, when a local business leader and youth pastor envisioned its roof sheltering something far more valuable than vehicles. The renovated building now is home to services for middle and high school students.

Mikey Glass (Assistant Director of The Garage Youth Center in Kennett) told us that the site is open from Monday through Thursday from 3-7pm and on Fridays it is open 3-6pm. Their Mission is empowering youth to reach their potential. They offer tutoring and mentoring and a host of activities, which also include sports. They have many volunteers, and always need more. The students engage in community events as volunteers, as well. Email:

Michael.glass@garageyouthcenter.org

Kristin Proto (ED of The Garage) oversees both Garage Youth Centers. The one in West Grove is located at 122 Rosehill Ave. They meet Monday through Thursday from 3-7pm.

Email: kristin.proto@garageyouthcenter.org

Jeanne Searer gave an overview of the Framework and **Joan Holliday** 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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Dave Haradon announced that this would be an evening of expressing “thanks” to Joan Holliday for her community involvement. He handed the microphone around to each person, who gave heartfelt appreciation for the community work that was shared with Joan Holliday. The attendees also shared information about their role in the community, resources and needs.

A Citation from The Commonwealth of PA, The House of Representative was presented to Joan Holliday, PHN, through the initiation of State Representative, Chris Ross.

Joan Holliday will hold the genuine testimonies of appreciation in her heart ALWAYS, and will carry them forward in her retirement phase of life.

Below is the Bridging Information Shared:

New attendees introduced themselves:

- **Jackie Maas (ED of Tick Tock Early Learning Center)** told us that she will be stepping down in June as ED and introduced **Jackie Gunter**, the new ED. Jackie Maas will assume a part-time position of Development Director. Email: ticktock@kennett.net
Jackie also told us that this is the 50th Year Celebration for Tick Tock. Contact Jackie for the Celebration Fundraiser on 5/31/14 at \$75 a ticket for elegant dinner and dancing.
- **Linda Mackiewicz** (LCH Volunteer and Event Coordinator) told us that she is a new employee and looking forward to working with the community. LMackiewicz@lchps.org
- **Rhoda McNitt** (Community Member/Pass Kendal Employee) enjoys Kennett and wants to learn more about the opportunities. Email: rhodamcnitt@verizon.net
- **Holly Poole** (CCHD Public Health Nurse) told us that she works in SCC and makes home visits to teen mothers under the Nurse Family Partnership program. She is open for referrals. Email: hpoole@chesco.org
- **Tom Payne** (Community Developer) told us that he was involved in developing the vision of The Kennett Commons, which hasn't been developed, however would like to get back into the community circle of information. Email: tpayne@theiriscompany.com

Other attendees introduced themselves and shared information about their community work and requests for volunteers:

- **Esther Rochester** (Community) told us that she was the person, who had the idea that each person brings a photo of his/her family, current, or grandparents, grandparents to

this meeting, so that we can learn more about each other's families. We can view the photos at "bridging time." Esther's Phone for Text Messages: 610-335-5917

- **Clara Vasquez** (Domestic Violence Center) told us that they need Spanish interpreters for court. Email: cvazquez@dvccc.com
- **Lucero Benites** (HR for Kaolin Mushroom) told us that she came to the US from Mexico as a teen-ager; graduated from KHS and college and now is working in HR at Kaolin Mushroom, which has job openings for harvesters. Email: luceroKG@latinmail.com or emarnell@southmill.com
- **Lorraine Anderson** (Retired Community Leader) told us that, after one year of retirement is looking strategically for an area to become a community volunteer. Email: lorrainemarieandersen@gmail.com
- **Cynthia Fannon** (Community Resident) told us that Esther Rochester invited her and she would like to support the community work. Email: Cynthia.moriarity@us-resources.com
- **Claudia Turner** (Pathstone) told us that she is the Education Coordinator for the Migrant Head start Program. They will open again in September for seasonal farm worker families. They provide child care and pre-school from 7am to 5pm. Email: cturner@pathstone.org
- **Beverly Bach** (Community Resident) involved in many volunteer activities including the Kennett Area Arts Coalition and Study Buddies after-school tutoring. Email: beverlyb123@verizon.net & <https://www.facebook.com/KennettAreaArtsCoalition>
- **Mary Lou Thomas** (Crosslands Resident) told us that Crosslands residents have conducted three food drives for the Kennett Food Cupboard this year and encouraged others to do the same. Email: mlthomaspa@aol.com
- **Phil Gilbert** (Crosslands Resident) told us that he has been involved with After the Bell Program for Middle School Students. He encourages everyone to volunteer. Email: plgilbert@aol.com
- **Jessie Cocks** (Community Resident) told us about the workshop on Rank and Privilege that she will be providing at Kennett Meeting Sunday, 5/18/14 at 9:30am. All are welcome. She will give information about Katrina Bank's Empowerment Workshop. Email: jessiecocks@verizon.net
- **Cathy Brison** (Kennett YMCA) asked us to support the Kennett Run on May 17th. This is a great activity for the community and a fundraiser for non-profits. Email: Cabrisonmm@aol.com
- **Roberta Eldridge** (Community Resident) told us that she has helped develop a Community Coffee Klatch. Every Thursday from 11-noon there is free artfully brewed

- **Peg Baker** (Jenners Pond Resident) is also an original “bridger” from 1998. Peg praised the Kennett community for staying with its *peaceful, progressive and inclusive* philosophy. Email: Sb29stnj@aol.com
- **Ken Schreffler** (Neighbors in Action) told us that this program out of the Kennett Area Senior Center is set-up to provide a system of care for seniors and others, and that the program is supported by volunteers. They have a growing membership and a bank of volunteers. When home services are more demanding, he would refer to Innovations Home Care. He is looking for individuals and groups, who would be willing to generate volunteers for this service. Email: kschreffler@kennettseiorcenter.org
- **Salvador Villicana** (Retiree from CCHD) expressed appreciation for his work in the SCC community.
- **Jeanne Searer** (Casa de las Culturas) told us that Cinco de Mayo was a great success. Her group is now promoting an organization that celebrates ALL cultures in the area. She also told us about the Kennett Area Senior Center “Indoor” Yard Sale on 6/7/14 from 8 to 3pm at 427 S. Walnut St., Kennett. Email: jeannecrew491@hotmail.com
- **Tom Hoehle** (Kennett Area Senior Center and Previous Bridging Facilitator) told us that he has enjoyed being a part of the Kennett community since 2000 and promotes membership at the KASC and volunteerism. Email: thoehle@kennettseiorcenter.org,
- **Janice Taylor** (Jenners Pond Resident) told us that she values the Kennett community and the volunteer work. She was previously involved with the Anson B Nixon Park.
- **Pam Carter** (Anson B Nixon Park) Check out the Concert Series for the summer. Email: pamelahcarter@comcast.net
- **Anne Humes** (Kendal Resident) told us that she loves to volunteer with youth and is interested in providing an after-school craft for teen-agers. This also is her 13 year of organizing the Kendal Food Drives, which produced 544 pounds of food last time. Phone: 610-388-1199
- **Wright Horne** (Senior Advancement Officer at Friends Home) told us that he started this job recently. He will be helping with the planning and assuring that Friends Home is providing the services most needed. Email: whorne@fhkennett.org
- **Casey Jones** (Transformation Initiative) told us about the weekly E- Update and Calendar of Events and the Face book Page at www.facebook.com/TransformationIni “Like” the page to receive email updates. Community non-profit groups may 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
- **Kristin Proto** (West Grove Garage Youth Center) asked us to support their special fund raising challenge: First Click the link below, then Click Vote Now, Select PA, Select

Summer Workforce Program, and Vote 10x

https://apps.facebook.com/sf_neighbor_assist/ Ask your friends, family and co-workers to vote. **Vote 10x Daily between now and May 16th!!!**

If you have questions about the State Farm privacy policy, it can be found

here: <https://www.statefarm.com/customer-care/privacy-security/privacy/>

- **Melanie Weiler** (Kennett Area Community Services) told us that they always need more food donations to the Food Cupboard; fresh fruits and vegetables are also welcome. Email: Melanie-kacs@comcast.net
- **Larry Bosley** (The Market at Liberty Place) reflected on his years as Kennett Superintendant and now invites us to partake in community building at The Market. Email: lbosley@lgbproperties.com

Joan Holliday responded:

We, **Each and All**, are needed to create community harmony and each person through his/her comments reflected the unique contributions each and collectively have made and continue to make. She also appreciated that the community is truly reflecting the living philosophy of the land--*peaceful, progressive, inclusivity*, and that this has been our higher order guide since 1998!

The group then mingled and “bridged” enjoying cake and lemonade together; donated by Esther Rochester and Tom Hoehle.

Bridging the Community was held on **Wednesday, July, 09, 2014 at His Mission, 342 E. Birch St., Kennett**. This was the Annual Tom Hoehle Community Picnic. Community members arrived at 6pm with a dish to share for the picnic. Tom Hoehle and Dave Haradon were our excellent grillers and were assisted by Laura Gonzalez. Bridging meeting started at 7pm. Thirty-nine friendly community members joined to share a Bridging event on a comfortable summer evening outside. **This is the 96th Bridging meeting! (This community process has been vibrant and lively since May 1998 bi-monthly)**

The next meeting will be held on Wednesday, September 10, 2014 at 7pm at The Kennett Area Senior Center, 427 S. Walnut St., Kennett Square, PA. For Information Contact: Joan Holliday at dochollisv@aol.com or cell: 610-717-2180.

Minutes of *Bridging* meetings are on the web site: www.bridgingcommunity.com or there is 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, Facilitator of the Meeting, and **Jeanne Searer** welcomed everyone and gave an overview of a Bridging meeting.

Email: thoehle@kennettseiorcenter.org and 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

Tina Butcher told the group that they were happy to provide His Mission's site for the annual community picnic. *His Mission* provides shelter, food, clothing and mentoring for the single homeless. The residents stay between 60-90 days. Tina Butcher and her sister, Bobbie Newman are carrying on the legacy of their mother, Margaret Valentine. At this time, the only funding they receive is from the local community. Contact Email: tamikabutcher@yahoo.com

New attendees introduced themselves:

- **Paul Winters** (Community Resident) told us that he lives across the street from His Mission and has received help from Good Neighbors Home Repair, which is allowing him to stay in his home. Email: nicolerichard@yahoo.com
- **Marcia Shirilla** (Resources for Human Development) told us that she is the daughter of David Haradon and has a new job with RHD to help residents learn more about the Affordable Care Act and ways to obtain medical insurance. Email: Marcia.Shirilla@rhd.org

- **Carli** (Kendal Communities) told us that she wanted to participate in a community event so attended Bridging. She volunteers for Kendal Communities and Good Neighbors.
- **Johnny** (Habitat for Humanity) told us that they are hoping to break ground in the spring of 2015 in West Grove for forty plus homes in West Grove. They are completing eighty-nine homes in Coatesville. He is interested in joining with other affordable home groups and home repair groups to put on a community forum to inform the community about their services. Web site: www.hfhcc.org Email: BFRothen@verizon.net
- **Beth Sippola and Etta DiMarco** (Bayada) told us that they are located on Cypress St. They provide home health care and services for SCC and Delaware County. They also are looking for qualified staff. Email: bsippola@bayada.com; edimarco@bayada.com
- **Renna Van Oot** (ED of Friends Home) This retirement home is located in the heart of town. Renna invited us to come sit on the front porch and rock with some of the residents, who have wonderful stories to tell from 100 years ago. Friends Home is open to hosting meetings and invite volunteers to join the residents in activities. Email: rvanoot@fhkennett.org
- **Daren Lighty** (Unionville Resident) came to participate in the Bridging meeting. He currently is staying at His Mission. Email: Darenlighty@gmail.com
- **Katie Howard** (Victoria Gardens) told us about the weekly Community Coffee Klatch, which meets every Thursday from 11am to noon at The Market at Liberty Place, 148 W. State St., Kennett. The purpose is to have an informal community gathering to bring together generations and learn more about the town. Free coffee is served.

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

- **Bobbie Newman** (His Mission) told us about the Community Picnic that His Mission will be holding on Saturday, 7/26/14 from 1-3pm. Each and all are invited.
- **Esther Rochester** (Community) told us that Historic East Linden Street had a successful GALA Fundraiser on 6/7/14. They are now the Carter Community Development Corporation and provide after-school tutoring for community youth, as well as work on projects for community development.
- **Tom Hoehle** (Kennett Area Senior Center) told us that there will be the Annual KASC Fundraiser on Saturday, 8/16/14 at The Red Clay Room---dinner and auction. Contact Tom for the \$50 tickets at: thoehle@kennettseiorcenter.org
- **Jeanne Searer and Laura Gonzalez** (Casa Guanajuato) told us that they will be organizing another Day of the Dead celebration on 11/01/14 at The American Legion

Hall. The committee meets at Migrant Ministries, 645 E. Baltimore Pike, Kennett on the third Friday of the month at 7pm. Please come help them plan!

Day of the Dead (Spanish: *Día de Muertos*) is a [Mexican](#) holiday celebrated throughout Mexico and around the world in other cultures. The holiday focuses on gatherings of family and friends to pray for and remember friends and family members who have died. This year they will be building altars for Maya Angelou and Gabriel Garcia Marcuz; they would like to recruit community volunteers, especially youth, to help with constructing the altars. Email: jeannecrew491@hotmail.com and gnzlr@sbcglobal.net

- **Dave Haradon** (Longwood Rotary) told us that there will be a meeting at Church of the Advent, 401 N. Union St., Kennett on Tuesday, 7/22/14 at 7pm to learn more about developing a Family Promise Affiliate in SCC, which involves faith congregations helping with providing shelter for homeless families at night; with an identified Day Room during the day.
Dave also encouraged community residents to apply for community grants and identify volunteer projects for a generous and able-bodied group of Longwood Rotarians. Rotarian's motto is: *Service above Self*. They have recently helped KACS with painting and establishing a vegetable garden at the Cupboard. Email: daveharadon@gmail.com
- **Joan Holliday** (Community) told us about the Architectural Design Solutions to Enhance Senior Living Presentation, which will be given by Dennis Melton, Erin Kershaw and Joan Holliday at The Kennett Area Senior Center on Wednesday, 7/23/14 at 7pm. The goal is to support seniors staying in town---Baby Boomers, as well---with also promoting inter-generational settings/community processes and home services.
Email: dochollisv@aol.com
Joan also told us that the ACTIVATE Kennett Square group's advocacy project for a safe pathway from Kennett Borough to the New Garden Shopping Center is moving forward; Kennett Township, in cooperation with New Garden and Kennett Borough has received a Planning Grant from the County.
- **Laura Gonzalez** (LCH Health Center and Social Services) told us that this fall, LCH will have office hours from 8am to 8pm from Monday through Thursday and 8am-noon on Fridays. Also, Laura will be starting to teach Spanish Literacy to Latino seniors. There will be conversational group meetings in Spanish, Italian and Chinese. LCH has a Health Center, which accepts insurances, as well as serves the uninsured.
Email: gnzlr@sbcglobal.net
- **Kathy Hrenko** (After the Bell) told us that they will have their after school enrichment classes for KMS starting 9/30/14 through 11/6/14. They are looking for volunteers, who have a special craft or program to offer, as well as general volunteers---one hour/week.
Email: khrenko@comcast.net or afterthebell@kcsd.org
- **Burt Rothenberger** (Habitat for Humanity) told us that the Re-Store in New Garden Shopping Center is doing well. They need volunteers and they have permanent and part-time job positions. Email: BFRothen@verizon.net

- **Claudia Turner** (Path stone) told us that they will start recruiting for Migrant Head Start in August. Daycare will be provided for migrant families, who work in rural agriculture from 6am to 5pm. She also referred to the Employment Training and Cristina Herrera was present as the representative. Email: cturner@pathstone.org cherrera@pathstone.org
- **Lucero Benites** (Kaolin Mushroom) told us that they have job openings for harvesters and other jobs, which involve mechanical, truck driving and supervisory skills. Lucero introduced her two children, Alex and Alexis. Call: 610-444-4800 ext 213; Email: lbenites@southmill.com
- **Matt Reeder** (Senator Pileggi's Office) said he will communicate issues and concerns to the Senator. Email: mreeder@pasen.gov
- **Mary Anderson** (Kennett Area Senior Center) told us that the KACS has a special program for seniors, who need assistance. Family members can bring the Special Seniors to KASC from 9am to 3pm and this helps them socialize and family caregivers are given a break. Mary participates as a volunteer in this program.

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

- **Claudia Turner** "bridged" with Dave Haradon and The Longwood Rotary to help with painting at Pathstone. She also "bridged" with Lucero Benites around job employment at Kaolin Mushroom.
- **Burt Rothenberger** "bridged" With Cristina Herrera around job employment opportunities; After the Bell and Dave Haradon around Family Promise.
- **Tom Hoehle** "bridged" with Marcia Shirilla around giving a Presentation at the Kennett Area Senior Center; Matt Reeder around volunteering for the KASC Fundraiser, and with Joan Holliday, who bought two tickets to the Fundraiser.
- **Joan Holliday** "bridged" with Paul Winters about the need for color strips on sidewalks for wheelchairs and about Joan communicating this to the Kennett Borough. She "bridged" with Kathy Hrenko around a Teen Pregnancy Prevention Program focused on establishing life goals to be integrated into one of the After the Bell classes. She also "bridged" with Tina Butcher around attending the Family Promise meeting.
- **Marcia Shirilla** "bridged" with Matt Reeder, LCH, KASC, Joan Holliday, Tina Butcher, Johnny and Diana from Bayada about contacts, presentations and partnering around information around health insurance/Affordable Care Act.
- **Renna Van Oot** "bridged" with Dave Haradon around Family Promise and Mary Anderson and Dave Haradon about rocking on Friend's Home porch with seniors.
- **Kathy Hrenko** "bridged" with Lucero Benites around a Bullying workshop, which could be provided by Lucero's Son's Karate instructor.
- **Jeanne Searer** "bridged" with Laura Gonzalez, Kathy Hrenko and others around involvement in planning the Day of the Dead.

A hat was passed and \$107 was donated to His Mission for its service to the homeless.

Bridging the Community was held on **Wednesday, September 10, 2014 at The Kennett Area Senior Center, 427 S. Walnut St., Kennett Square, PA.** Bridging meeting started at 7pm. Thirty-eight spirited community members joined to share a Bridging event on a balmy, early fall evening. **This is the 97th Bridging meeting! (This community process has been vibrant and lively since May 1998 bi-monthly)**

The next meeting will be held on Wednesday, November 12, 2014 at 7pm at PathStone Senior Training and Employment Services, 421 McFarland Rd., Kennett Square, PA 19348. For Information Contact: Joan Holliday at dochollisv@aol.com or cell: 610-717-2180.

Minutes of *Bridging* meetings are on the web site: www.bridgingcommunity.com or there is 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.

Joan Holliday welcomed everyone and told them that thirteen years ago, a large number of community members attended *Bridging the Community* meeting which was held at the Kennett Area Senior Center after 9/11/01. Joan led the group in a Moment of Silence for the lost lives in 9/11 and for world peace.

Anita O'Connor ED of Kennett Area Senior Center told us that the Center was founded by the Kennett Rotary Club in 1972 and continues to receive financial and volunteer help from both the Kennett Rotary and the Longwood Rotary. KASC provides a range of programs to keep the senior members physically stable, emotionally happy and financially independent. They also have a Resale Book Shoppe, 113 S. Union St., Kennett, which helps support the Center. Email: aconnor@kennettseiorcenter.org

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:

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We will keep it a process---not a program with infrastructure
We will value each person's contribution---not focused on formal hierarchy

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

New Attendees introduced themselves:

- **Stephanie Pia and Jamie Pierce** (Kiwanis Club) told us about an information meeting about forming a Kiwanis Club at Kennett Square on 9/15/14 6pm to 7pm at South Mill Mushroom Sales, 649 West South Street, Kennett. This group works on behalf of the improvement of lives of youth. Email: spia@southmill.com and piercejamie2@gmail.com

- **Chrissy Shelly** (ARC) is an Education Advocate for Special Needs in the Kennett School District. She also promoted the PA Education for All Coalition's 3rd Eastern PA Inclusion Conference on 11/7-8/14 at PaTTAN in King of Prussia. For more information: www.paedforall.org or Email Chrissy at: Chrissyshelly@gmail.com or cshelly@arcofchestercounty.org
- **Dick Bingham** (Chair of Kennett Area Democrats) told us that they are located on South Union Street, across the street from the KHS tennis courts. Her promoted National Voter Registration Day on 9/23/14 and the importance of being or becoming a voter. Email: Rbingnew@gmail.com or www.kennettareademoncrats.com
- **Ryan Nettle** (Americorp/VISTA) told us that he is working for CCDCD with Decade to Doorways, which is the Plan to end homelessness in Chester County in ten years. Joan Holliday and he are on the committee for *National Hunger and Homelessness Awareness Week* and the Kick-Off will be in Kennett Square at the American Legion Hall, 200 State St. on Thursday, 11/13/14 from 5:30-7pm. All community members invited. Email: messle@chesco.org or Joan Holliday at: dochollisv@aol.com
- **Kathy Do** (ED After the Bell) told us that she is the new ED after Kathy Hrenko and is encouraging everyone to join in providing or supporting enrichment classes during a 6 week session with Kennett Middle School students. (Sessions start 9/30; 01/27 and 4/21.) There are also behind the scene volunteer roles with web management etc. Email: afterthebell@kcsd.org
A Certificate of Appreciation was presented by Anita O'Connor to Kathy Hrenko for her strong participation at *Bridging the Community* meetings.
- **Wendy Myers** (WCU Masters Social Work Masters) is pursuing social work with a special interest in providing meditation processes in corporate and health care settings. Email: forestbode@verizon.net
- **Lany Villalobos** and Colleague, **Sarah** (PA Farmworkers Project) told us that they provide legal help for migrant workers, who have income tax issues with the IRS. They soon will be starting up Office Hours at KASC. Email: lvillalobos@philalegal.org
- **Lorena Baeza** (Migrant Ed) told us that she is attending *Bridging* to be connected with the larger community. They provide support to migrant students and are out of CCIU Email: lorenab@cciu.org
- **Robert Garrett** (Kennett Area Senior Center) told us that he promotes the KASC as a great place to have fun and learn together. He told us about the **Caregivers Meeting** held the first Wednesday at KASC from 10am to noon for caregivers of Alzheimer and Dementia family members. He also is a member of a music band called, "**The Grateful Alive**"; they entertain at nursing homes. He is a tour guide at the Chester County Historical Museum in West Chester and he can help set-up tours. Museum is open from 9:30am to 4:30pm. Email: BobTGarrett@aol.com

- **Bobby Garrett** (Kennett Area Resident) told us that he is living with his father and works at Longwood Gardens, and praised the Kennett community for its community involvement.
- **Leah Gray** (Longwood Rotary Projects) told us that she is attending *Bridging* to bring information back to the Rotary about volunteer efforts that they can participate in. For information contact Dave Haradon at: daveharadon@gmail.com

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

- **Cristina Herrera and Janet Cordova** (PathStone) told us that they provide Training and Employment Services for local farmworkers. They are hosting the next *Bridging* the Community meeting. Email: cherrera@pathstone.org; jcordova@pathstone.org
- **Claudia Turner** (PathStone Migrant Headstart) told us that they are taking enrollments for daycare for migrant children 6 weeks to 6 years. She also told us to be looking for an event, "Alternatives to Ferguson" that Church of the Open Door will be hosting in January. More information at November Bridging. cturner@pathstone.org
- **Janet Zeis** (Volunteer Coordinator for Emergency Services) told us that the website: www.readychesco.org will provide information about disaster planning and will provide alerts. She also told us about a multi-state drill. In Chester County the drill will be conducted through a **Free Flu Shot Clinic** offered at Handi-Crafters, 215 Barley Sheaf Road, Thorndale, PA from 11am to 7pm for ages 3years and older; public is welcome! There will be a **Faith-Based Community Conversations Breakfast** on 10/07/14 from 8:30am to 10:00am to learn how you can tie Emergency Preparedness to everyday activities, and why it is important to prepare all year long. Email: jzeis@chesco.org
- **Nancy Bossart** (First Baptist Church) told us about the American Red Cross Blood Drive, Monday, 9/22/14 from 2pm-7pm at 415 W. State St., Kennett. Sign up online at: redcrossblood.org or 1-800-RED CROSS. Email: nanboss@comcast.net
- **Casey Jones** (Transformation Initiative) told us about the weekly E- Update and Calendar of Events and the Face book Page at www.facebook.com/TransformationIni "Like" the page to receive email updates. Community non-profit groups may 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
- **Kate Uhler** (Kennett Area Community Services) told us that the Food Cupboard always needs donated food; she encouraged food drives. KACS also helps provide emergency rental assistance, as part of the rapid re-housing project. There will be a meeting at Church of the Advent, 401 N. Union St., Kennett on Tuesday, 9/15/14 at 6pm to learn more about the **Family Promise Affiliate in SCC**, which involves faith congregations helping with providing shelter for homeless families at night

for 3-4 weeks/year or support by other churches; with an identified Day Room during the day. Email: kate-kacs@comcast.net

- **Mikey Glass** (The Garage Youth Center) told us that there will be a Blood Drive on 9/19/14 from 1-6pm at 115 S. Union St., Kennett. There will be the 2nd annual Garage 5K on 9/20/14 at 9am Goddard Park in West Grove. Register under "Happenings" at: www.garageyouthcenter.org or Email: michael.glass@garageyouthcenter.org
- **Laura Mackiewicz** (LCH Health and Social Services) told us that they are inviting everyone to *Viva tu Vida! Get Up! Get Moving!* to be held on Saturday, 9/27/14 from 10am to 2pm at Anson B Nixon Park. Everyone welcome to this Health and Wellness event. Email: LMackiewicz@lchps.org
- **Jeanne Searer** (Kennett Area Senior Center) told us that there will be an "Indoor" Yard Sale on 9/13/14 from 8am-4pm; a Crafts Showcase and Bazaar on 10/17/14 from 9am to 6pm and 10/18 from 9am to 2pm. Email: jeannecrew491@hotmail.com
- **Esther Rochester** (East Linden Street) told us that there always is a need for after-school tutoring for Study Buddies at 301 E. Linden Street/Bethel AME Church, which is held Tues., Weds., Thurs. from 4-5:30pm. Contact LaToya Myers at: lmyers@cartercdc.org
- **Wright Horne** (Friends Home on State St.) told us that Friends Home could provide 30 plus volunteers, if the community group would bring the "volunteer project" to 147 W. State Street. The residents are homebound, yet capable. Come rock on the porch with them and learn a lot about life! Email: whorne@fhkennett.org
- **Anita O'Connor** (KASC) told us that they have a need for someone to provide transportation to Elverson for three seniors---one driver at 10:30am and one driver at 3:30pm on 9/12/14. Email: aconnor@kennettseniorcenter.org
- **Jessie Cocks** (Community) told us that there will be a Mayan Sacred Fire Ceremony, 9/13/14 from 6-9pm at EARTHHEART, 352 N. Lincoln St., Kennett. Bring bottled water and optional candles, sage, chocolate or other offerings for the fire. Email: jessiecocks@verizon.net
- **Jeanne Searer and Laura Gonzalez** (Casa Guanajuato) told us that they will be organizing another Day of the Dead celebration on 11/01/14 at The American Legion Hall. The committee meets at Migrant Ministries, 645 E. Baltimore Pike, Kennett on the third Friday of the month at 7pm. Please come help them plan!
Day of the Dead (*Spanish: Día de Muertos*) is a *Mexican* holiday celebrated throughout Mexico and around the world in other cultures. The holiday focuses on gatherings of family and friends to pray for and remember friends and family members who have died. This year they will be building altars for Maya Angelou and Gabriel Garcia Marcuz; they would like to recruit community volunteers, especially youth, to help with constructing the altars. Email: jeannecrew491@hotmail.com and gnzlr@sbcglobal.net

- **By Email:** Sylvia Barreiro Thomas (Upland Country Day School) would like to announce that she is looking for service projects for 8th and 9th grade students for 01/16/15, the Friday before the National Service Day. One faculty member and 4-8 students are sent to the volunteer site. Email: sbarreiro@uplandcds.org
- **By Email:** Matt Reeder (Senator Pileggi's Office) Please make the announcement that if anyone needs to send anything or invite the Senator for anything they can send it to him via email at: mreeder@pasen.gov or call at 610-358-5183.

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

- **Jeanne Searer** "bridged" with many attendees around the Kennett Area Senior's events.
- **Jessie Cocks** "bridged" with Wright Horne around Friends Home being a site for homeless families with Family Promise and also several persons on Mayan event.
- **Katy Do** "bridged" with Robert Garrett around a tour of the CC Historical Museum for After the Bell students.
- **Laura Gonzalez** "bridged" with Esther Rochester around Maya Angelou altar for Day of the Day. She will meet with Esther at the Bayard Taylor Library on 9/12/14 at 10am.
- **Lany Villalobos** "bridged" with Laura Mackiewicz from LCH, Claudia Turner from PathStone and Lorena Baeza at Migrant Ed about presentations to parents around income tax filing and issues.
- **Chrissy Shelly** from ARC "bridged" with Ryan Nettle from CCD CD about homeless issues with disabled population.
- **Claudia Turner** "bridged" with PA Farmworkers Project; Lorena Baeza from Migrant Education; Chrissy Shelly from ARC; Laura Mackiewicz around Health Fair---all information and Presentations for Migrant Headstart parents.
- **Nancy Bossart** "bridged" with several attendees around posting the Blood Drive posters.
- **Wendy Myers** "bridged" with LCH around meditation for clients with stressful lives.
- **Anita O'Connor** "bridged" with Wright Horne and will meet around creating a complimentary partnership with KASC, and with Janet Zeis around a Disaster Preparedness Presentation at KASC.
- **David Haradon** "bridged" with Janet Zeis around "Continuity of Leadership," a training that helps organizations stay viable during a disaster so they may provide "comfort support" to the victims of the disaster.
- **Dick Bingham** "bridged" with Laura Mackiewicz from LCH to have a table at *Vive tu Vida* event to encourage Voter Registration by October 6th.
- **Rosaneli Zavala** "bridged" with Lorena Baeza around job opportunities in her education background of Labor Relations.
- **Robert Garrett** "bridged" with several attendees around information about his band and Kennett Area Senior Center activities.
- **Esther Rochester** "bridged" with Leah Gray, who is interested in tutoring at Study Buddies, and also helping Esther identify facilities that have laundry work available.
- **Joan Holliday** "bridged" with several attendees around capturing full information for these minutes.
- **Jessie Cocks** gave a "thank-you" to Clarence Anderson for his great janitor work at KASC. Clarence will be celebrating his 90th birthday on 12/21/14

Bridging the Community was held on **Wednesday, November 12, 2014 at 7pm at Path Stone Senior Training and Employment Services, 421 McFarland Rd., Kennett Square, PA 19348.** Thirty-nine engaging community members joined to share a Bridging event on a crisp fall evening. **This is the 98th Bridging meeting! (This community process has been vibrant and lively since May 1998 at bi-monthly gatherings.)**

The next meeting will be held on Wednesday, January 14, 2015 at 7pm at Church of the Open Door, 210 S. Broad Street, Kennett Square, PA 19348.

Minutes of *Bridging* meetings are on the web site: www.bridgingcommunity.com or there is 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.

Joan welcomed everyone and led the group in a “Happy Birthday” song for Anne Humes, who celebrates her birthday today and is one of the first to attend a Bridging meeting in 1008 and has continued to be a faithful attendee throughout the years and a ‘bridge” to Kendal residents.

We joined in a moment of silence to honor our Veterans.

Joan Holliday 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. 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

Christina Herrera and **Janet Cordova** told us about the Training and Employment Program that they provide at Path Stone. The service is funded by the Department of Labor, and helps the unemployed, underemployed, documented farm workers, rural poor, disadvantaged and/or disenfranchised find gainful employment at livable wages, by offering quality job training and employment services. Email: cherrera@pathstone.org and jcordova@pathstone.org

Claudia Turner (Path Stone Migrant Head Start) told us that they provide daycare for migrant children 6 weeks to 6 years. They are open from 7am to 5pm. They have openings for 112 students and can provide busing up to one hour driving distance (one way) within Chester County. Email: cturner@pathstone.org

David Haradon served as Facilitator of the Meeting with **Jeanne Searer.**

Email: daveharadon@gmail.com and jeannecrew491@hotmail.com

New Attendees introduced themselves:

- **Mackenzie Maas** (Community) told us that she came to the meeting with her mother, Jackie Maas, and will be leaving for South Carolina for a year to engage in the field of organic farming. Email: Mackenziemaas@gmail.com

- **Kecia McMillian** (Sylvan Learning) told us that Sylvan would like to provide services in the SCC area. Currently, they are located at 530 Peoples Plaza, Newark, DE. They provide study skills, math, writing, reading, homework help and SAT/ACT Preparation. Phone: 302-838-3400. Email: sylvan.newark@sylvanlearning.com or check out the website at: www.sylvannewark.com
- **Sheila Magendante** (The Hadley Memorial Fund) told us that this fund provides for free lectures and performances to educate and entertain. Check out: www.Hadleyfund.org and register at: www.hadley-memorial-fund.ticketleap.com
She also told us about the Quaker Fair on 11/22/14 from 10-2pm. Luncheon and Entrance Fee: Adults/\$10 and Children/\$5. On 12/7/14 there will be Playback Theatre at Kennett Meeting at 2pm. Email: Magendante@gmail.com
- **Casey** (Moved to Kennett from Avondale) and wants to “give back” through volunteering. Contact Joan for Casey’s contact information at dochollisv@aol.com
- **Kathy Warshaw** (Innovations Home Care) told us that they provide senior services on a sliding scale fee for seniors, who want to age in place. She is looking for part-time employees for geriatric care, transportation, home services. Do not need to be licensed. Email: cwarshaw@innovationshomecare.org; Phone: 1-888-680-2484
- **Linda Mercner** (ED of Young Moms) told us that they are an independent entity, under the umbrella of The Garage Youth Center 501C3 status. Their mission is to empower young moms to set goals; develop a plan and reach their dreams. They have a 1-1 mentoring program, along with social service guidance. They also provide community support at a monthly group meeting. Email: linda.mercner@youngmomscommunity.com
- **Carolee Kiernan** (West Grover Resident) came to learn more about *Bridging the Community* meeting. She is a regular attendee of the Kennett Community Coffee Klatch, which meets every Thursday from 11am to noon---all generations are welcome for a lively and enjoyable exchange. Free coffee!

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

- **Cathy Brison** (Kennett Area YMCA) told us that by 11/20/14 they would like to have collected 80 Thanksgiving meals. In December they have an Angel Tree for children gifts. Both donation options are open to the public; come in and pick up a slip with requested item. We also thanked Cathy for her many years of service at the YMCA from its start in Kennett over 30 years ago. Email: Cabrisonmm@aol.com
- **Mikey Glass** (The Garage Youth Center) told us that they will hold a Thanksgiving dinner with students and parents on 11/25/14 and are looking for donated food cards to help with expenses. They also will have a Christmas dinner for friends and family of the youth on 12/15/14. They will have a silent auction/meal fundraiser with open bar on 12/6/14 from 7-10pm. Check out: www.garageyouthcenter.org
Email: michael.glass@garageyouthcenter.org

- **Joan Holliday** (Community) told us that National Hunger and Homelessness Awareness Kick-Off will take place on 11/13/14 from 5:30pm to 7pm at The American Legion Hall, 208 E. State St., Kennett. It is open to the public. Please try to attend! And, there will be a Walk for Hunger and Homelessness Awareness on 11/19/14 at noon and 4pm. Meet in the Genesis Walkway and walk through town. Email: dochollisv@aol.com
- **Kathy Do** (ED After the Bell) told us that they had more KMS students signing up for the after school enrichment classes this fall. (Next 6 week sessions start: 01/27 and 4/21.) The program runs on volunteers, who can offer a class or support the program in various ways---one day a week for 6 weeks. Email: afterthebell@kcsd.org
- **Laura Gonzalez** (Casa Guanajuato) told us that they had over 500 community members attend Day of the Dead event on 11/01/14 and that it was a wonderful collaboration between The American Legion, Casa Guanajuato and The Garage Youth Center. She also announced that they will be holding a Posada on Saturday 12/13/14 from 4:30pm to 8:30pm with piñatas. Email: gnzlzlr@sbcglobal.net
- **Clara Vazquez** (Domestic Violence/located at LCH) told us that she will be on maternity leave, as she is having twins. Domestic Violence will need a part-time bi-lingual counselor. She also told us that there have been three deaths this past month in SCC due to domestic violence. She asked us to become more aware of this issue and to educate the community about the available help. Email: cvazquez@dvccc.com
- **Laurie Price and Tracy Glasco** (Against All Odds: A Women's Ministry) told us that they are spiritual mentors, prayer warriors and do outreach. They also expressed thanks to the Bridging process, which introduced them to Good Neighbors Home Repair, which helped one of their church members. Email laurieprice7890@outlook.com (Laurie); tracyglasco2@gmail.com Phone: 610-322-7847 (Laurie) or 267-884-2099 (Tracy)
- **Payton** (LaToya Myer's daughter) told us that she attends Upland Country Day School and her favorite subject is Art.
- **LaToya Myers** (Carter CDC) told us that East Linden Street continues to hold Study Buddies Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday from 4-6pm with over 20 students in attendance. Volunteers are always needed. They provide meals and also have a summer meal program. They have nominated Tony Gomez to become a Junior Councilman, which will happen next week; and he is also on the Carter CDC Board. East Linden Street hosts National Night Out; building healthy relationships with the police department. Email: lmyers@cartercdc.org
- **Brenda Flax** (Community) told us that her two children are students at Lincoln University. She and her husband, Derrick, are Board members and are promoting international students becoming acquainted with the broader community. She had applications to host a student for a week-end. Email: derrick.flax@gmail.com

- Mikey Glass “bridged” with Kecia McMillian around Sylvan’s services for The Garage Youth Center; with Jackie Maas around volunteers; with Melanie Weiler around a volunteer project for the youth and with Joan Holliday, who donated gift cards for the Thanksgiving dinner.
- Kathy Hrenko “bridged” with Jackie Maas around a volunteer project for Longwood Rotary; with LaToya Myers around Carter CDC and with Kecia McMillian around a presentation to the Rotary.
- Brenda Flax “bridged” with Cathy Warshaw, Claudia Turner and Laurie Mackiewicz around becoming hosts for an international family.
- Kathy Do “bridged” with Wright Horne around After the Bell students adopting a grandparent from Friends Home. She “bridged” with Linda Mercner around another group working with young MOMs. She also told the group to go on line and check out Giving Tuesday Chester for 12/2/14. Agencies can post their name and on-line donations are promoted on that day.
- Joan Holliday “bridged” with Melanie Weiler around the strategy of developing the capacity of the poor and referred to the book, “Toxic Charity” by Robert D. Lupton.
- Claudia Turner “bridged” with Beverly Bach about reading to the children at Head Start.
- All attendees took flyers for the Hadley Free Lectures.

After the meeting, the Path Stone staff took community members on a tour of the building. Others continued to “bridge” and enjoy the snacks and beverages provided by Path Stone. Thank you!