

**Minutes from 2016 Meetings**

January 13, 2016

March 9, 2016

May 11, 2016

July 13, 2016

September 14, 2016

November 9, 2016

**Bridging the Community** was held on Wednesday, January 13, 2016 at **The Market at Liberty Place, 148 W. State St., Kennett Square, PA 19348**. Forty-two engaging community members attended the 105<sup>th</sup> Bridging meeting/gathering.

The next meeting will be held on Wednesday, March 09, 2016 at 7pm at **South Mill/Kaolin Mushroom, 649 South St., Kennett Square, PA 19348**.

Minutes of *Bridging* meetings are posted on the web site: [www.bridgingcommunity.com](http://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.

We started the meeting with a Moment of Silence to honor terrorist attack victims.

**Joan Holliday** shared the Framework and **Jeanne Searer** shared the Guiding Principles. **Jeanne Searer** co-facilitated the Bridging meeting with **Joan Holliday**.

The overall context is our living philosophy, reflected by our land's energy/spirit - *peaceful, progressive, inclusivity*. "Bridging" promotes this living philosophy.

**Vision:** Kennett Square: Every day a better place to grow up in and grow old in

#### **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**

**Dr. Larry Bosley** (Owner of The Market at Liberty Place) told us that he was Superintendent of Kennett Schools from 1979 to 1999. He now is a Developer with his son, Geoff Bosley. They purchased The Market building when Genesis Health Care sold it about four years ago. They wanted to create a community gathering place and after visiting several other models in the surrounding area, they settled on the current "market" model. They have been pleased with the community response. They also learned that some of the steel beams in the building came from a WWII ship, which brought about the "Liberty Place" name. He welcomes each and all!

#### **New Attendees introduced themselves:**

- **Ann Smithyman** (Community) told us about the "Night To Shine" from The Tim Tebow Foundation on 2/12/16 from 6-9pm at Willowdale Chapel, 675 Unionville Rd., Kennett Square, PA 19348. It is an unforgettable prom night experience, centered on God's love, for people with special needs. To Register: [www.willowdalechapel.org/events](http://www.willowdalechapel.org/events)
- **Keith Smithyman** (Community) told us that he and Anne have lived in Kennett since 1979. He has a special interest in helping persons coming out of prison to find jobs. He

is willing to work with any company, who is interested in supporting this mission.  
Email: [Keithsmithyman@gmail.com](mailto:Keithsmithyman@gmail.com)

- **Kerianne Barry** (Kennett Area YMCA Volunteer Coordinator) told us that she started at the YMCA in the summer. She offers many opportunities for volunteering from--MLK Day of Sharing, Special Needs Adaptation Program (SNAP), Girls on the Run, Coaching Sports and more. Email: [kbarry@ymcagbw.org](mailto:kbarry@ymcagbw.org)
- **Martin Odom** (Recent Retiree) is looking for meaningful volunteer opportunities. He currently volunteers for CC Emergency Services with ham radio. He has a Science background. Email: [kb3pcy@gmail.com](mailto:kb3pcy@gmail.com)
- **Maritza Rivera Cochran** (MCHC/Family Center) told us that they are looking for volunteers to help prepare children and parents for Kindergarten entry. The program will start in the summer. Email: [mrivera@ccmchc.org](mailto:mrivera@ccmchc.org)
- **Florence Lim** (Crosslands) told us that she is attending Bridging to provide volunteer opportunity information to the residents of Crosslands. Email: [FAL153@aol.com](mailto:FAL153@aol.com)
- **Hannah Greenburg** (The Land Conservancy for SCC) told us that she is the Education Coordinator and is looking for volunteers. They also would like to get the word out about their programs and also provide specialized programs for identified groups to enjoy the land that has been conserved. To receive email information about their programs email: [admin@tlcforscc.org](mailto:admin@tlcforscc.org) To contact Hannah email: [education@tlcforscc.org](mailto:education@tlcforscc.org)
- **Emily Thomas** (The Land Conservancy for SCC) is the Development Coordinator. Email: [development@tlcforscc.org](mailto:development@tlcforscc.org)
- **Milena Lanz** (Associate Director of Health and Social Services) told us that they are housing about twelve homeless women and provide comprehensive services, along with health and social services towards sustainability. Email: [mlanz@homeofthesparrow.org](mailto:mlanz@homeofthesparrow.org)
- **Marian Whitlock** (Tick Tock Early Learning Center Board Member) told us that there are many opportunities to volunteer within the nursery school/day care. She also invited community members to visit the site that provides child care services for low-income families. They also are looking for committee members and will be raising capital funds. Email: [mlwhitlock@verizon.net](mailto:mlwhitlock@verizon.net)
- **Deanna Koepcke** (Community) helped develop "Start a Conversation about Race" at New Garden AME, 309 East Linden Street, Kennett Square, PA with Rev. Maxine Mao as facilitator. It will take place on Thursday 2/4/16 at 6:30pm. The community is invited. Email: [dkoepcke@hotmail.com](mailto:dkoepcke@hotmail.com)
- **Charlotte Otto** (Recent Retiree) told us that she is looking for meaningful volunteer opportunities. Email: [Otto102fam@msn.com](mailto:Otto102fam@msn.com)

- **Lizabeth Conners** (KASC) told us that they have an Assisted Senior Program for seniors in early stage dementia. They also are having a Valentine Dance and host a Community Breakfast once a month. Email: [lconners@kennettseiorcenter.org](mailto:lconners@kennettseiorcenter.org)
- **Cathy Huneke** (Mother of Girl Scout) is accompanying her daughter, who is looking for a service project in the community.
- **Alex Huneke** (Girl Scout Troop 4036) is looking for a community service project that relates to supporting a dog's agility. Email: [alhxneke@gmail.com](mailto:alhxneke@gmail.com)
- **Karen DAgusto** (Girl Scouts Service Manager) works with Kennett and Unionville. She has provided training for sixty girls for their Service Award. The girls are looking for community projects to fulfill their Service Awards. The projects need to be sustainable, demonstrate leadership, and meet a need in the community. Please email Karen to offer ideas for volunteer projects for the Girl Scouts. Email: [Kdagusto@aol.com](mailto:Kdagusto@aol.com)

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

- **Cathy Brison** (MLK CommUNITY Breakfast) told us that she had tickets for the MLK CommUNITY Breakfast to be held on 01/18/16 from 8am to 10am for \$20. Elder Jerry Poe is the Speaker. Kennett Community choir under the direction of Leon Spencer will perform. Email: [Cabrisonmm@aol.com](mailto:Cabrisonmm@aol.com)
- **Mikey Glass** (The Garage Youth Center) told us that The Garage Youth Center is celebrating its 15<sup>th</sup> year of operations. They are celebrating through a Day of Volunteering. Please join the students or offer a suggestion for a service project for Saturday 4/16/16. Email: [michael.glass@garageyouthcenter.org](mailto:michael.glass@garageyouthcenter.org)
- **Claudia Turner** (Pathstone) told us that they provide daycare for migrant children 6 weeks to 6 years whose parent/s work in the agricultural field. They are open from 7am to 5pm. They also have a new grant with seventeen child daycare slots for any resident who fits the income eligibility. They are looking for a teacher and an assistant. Email: [cturner@pathstone.org](mailto:cturner@pathstone.org)
- **Kathy Do** (After the Bell) told us that they will start their after-school 6 week enrichment programs at the Kennett Middle School starting 1/26/16 to 3/03/16 on T.W.T. They are looking for volunteers who will offer a program of the volunteer's interest, or be a volunteer. The commitment is 1 hour/week. Email: [executivedirector@afterthebell.org](mailto:executivedirector@afterthebell.org)
- **Jessie Cocks** (Community) invited us to a music concert with **Dukes of Destiny** at West Grove Friends Meeting, 01/30/16 from 7:30-10pm. She also encouraged us to check out the new S&L Services (Copy and Printing) at 201 S. Willow St., Kennett. They do a great job and they are new business owners.

She invited us to The Hadley Fund Free Lecture *Sword of the Spirit* on 01/16/16 at 7pm and *One-Act Play* on 01/17/16 at 2pm. Both are based upon the life and letters of Mary and John Brown, abolitionists.

She also told us about the MLK CommUNITY Advocates and invited us to the first Thursday meetings of every month at 5:30pm at The Kennett Area Senior Center.

Email: [jessiecocks@verizon.net](mailto:jessiecocks@verizon.net)

- **Jeanne Searer** (Community) told us that she has joined the American Legion Women's Auxiliary Post 491. They are working on a project to "Help a Wounded Veteran on the Road to Recovery!" through taking a trip to The Grand Canyon. Anyone who would like to donate on line: [www.gcriverrunners.org](http://www.gcriverrunners.org) or mail a check to: GCRRA Grand Canyon Warriors Trip, P.O. Box 20013, Sedona, AZ 86341-20013. Contact person is: Barb Zercher at 732-720-9271. To contact Jeanne: [jeannecrew491@hotmail.com](mailto:jeannecrew491@hotmail.com)
- **Casey Jones** (Transformation Initiative) has a weekly E- Update and Calendar of Events and the Face book Page at [www.facebook.com/TransformationIni](http://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](mailto:bps461@msn.com)

Also Casey is working on a Fatherhood Initiative to connect fathers with children. He offered a Free Public Seminar GriefShare for Parents and Caregivers of Grieving Children on 01/27/16, 6:30 to 8:00pm at Calvary Fellowship, Downingtown/Lionville.

- **Kecia McMillion** (Center Director of Education for Sylvan Learning of Newark) 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. They have STEM Programs, Robotics, Coding and Math Edge. They also are helping with SAT practice tests and tutoring, as the SAT tests have changed this year. They are looking for math and science teachers. Email: [sylvan.newark@sylvanlearning.com](mailto:sylvan.newark@sylvanlearning.com) or check out the website at: [www.sylvannewark.com](http://www.sylvannewark.com). Email: [keciamcm@me.com](mailto:keciamcm@me.com)
- **Joan Holliday** (Community) celebrated Esther Rochester's new job as a bus aide and thanked Esther and Doris Rochester for being faithful attendees of Bridging since its early years. Email: [dochollisv@aol.com](mailto:dochollisv@aol.com)
- **Kris Smith** (ChaddsFord Live) told us that she has a new job in marketing and advertising for ChaddsFord Live, digital local news, which covers Concordville, Pennsbury, Birmingham, Pocopson, ChaddsFord and Kennett---soon moving into Oxford. To subscribe: [www.Chaddsfordlive.com](http://www.Chaddsfordlive.com) She also thanked and celebrated all the "Bridgers" from the last meeting who donated books for children in Buena Vista, VA. She delivered a large quantity to their library. Email: [artwaves@hotmail.com](mailto:artwaves@hotmail.com)

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

- Charlotte Otto “bridged” with Kathy Do from After the Bell and Hannah Greenburg from the Land Conservancy from SCC. She is in the “dating phase” of signing up to become a volunteer.
- Annalie Korengel (Family Promise) “bridged” with Casey Jones about Grief Share; with Kris Smith about marketing; with the YMCA for Family Promise client needs; with the Karen D’Agosto about Girl Scout projects and bought a MLK Breakfast ticket.
- Kris Smith “bridged” with many people, sharing her business card, so they can provide news; obtain news and help market and advertise.
- Noah Lessner “bridged” with Kerianne Barry about coaching at the YMCA. He is a WCU student and told us that he could promote Kennett volunteer needs at their University Volunteer Fair. (Note: Information below from Janet Zeis from last meeting below.) Noah’s Email: [noahlessner@gmail.com](mailto:noahlessner@gmail.com)
- Jessie Cocks “bridged” with Jeanne Searer and others around the Hadley Fund brochure and with Deanna Koepcke about attending a MLK Advocates meeting.
- Hannah Greenberg “bridged” with Mikey Glass for The Garage Youth Center volunteers; with Milena Lanz for special event at the Land Conservancy for Home of the Sparrow residents and with Kris Smith around marketing.
- Kecia McMillian “bridged” with Mikey Glass from The Garage around Sylvan helping with SAT preparation and with Keith Smithyman around interviewing for a part-time teaching position.
- Kathy Do “bridged” with Charlotte Otto about providing a knitting class for middle school students; with Martin Odom around providing a science program and with Florence Lim around Crosslands residents attending a Presentation at Kendal on 1-25-16 at 7:15pm to hear about the volunteer opportunities at After the Bell. All community members welcome.
- Cathy Brison “bridged” with Lizabeth Conners, Maritza Rivera Cochran and sold them tickets and “bridged” with Deanna Koepcke around attending MLK Advocates meeting.
- Casey Jones “bridged” with Annalie Korengel around GriefShare and several others around his E-Update information, and with Maritza Rivera Cochran about joining with Fathers Matter effort.
- Claudia Turner “bridged” with Florence Lim about volunteers for Pathstone Migrant Head start and with Casey Jones around the Fatherhood Initiative. She also spoke to Alejandra Escamilla about the teaching or assistant positions. Alejandra is learning English and has a college degree from Mexico.
- Janet Cleaver (Climate Protection) “bridged” with Thomas Trendelenburg, who was sitting right next to her and with Martin Odom, who both are involved in science. Thomas is willing to provide a Presentation at her Climate Protection meeting.
- Lizabeth Conners “bridged” with Maritza Rivera Cochran about Maritza’s mother becoming a member of the Kennett Senior Center and also about the Valentine’s Dance.
- Ann Smithyman “bridged” with Kerianne Barry from the YMCA to have Special Needs youth attend the “Night to Shine” at Willowdale Chapel.
- Pam Carter “bridged” with Alex Huneke about dog agility project at Anson B Nixon Park.

- Joan Holliday “bridged” with Janet Zeis. They discussed how to integrate a health outreach with a captive audience, i.e. coat and book bag distributions. Doug from the YMCA said they do this with the Operation Warm coat distribution at the YMCA.

**Information about recruiting WC University Volunteers:**

West Chester University has launched a new online searchable database for students and community members interested in participating in meaningful public service. The goal of the website is to match interests and skills of volunteers with opportunities in our community. We need your help with adding non-profit and governmental agencies looking for volunteers.

Please take a couple of minutes to input information about your organization. You can update your information on the website at any point, by emailing Joellen Reindl at JReindl@wcupa.edu. We will also be periodically asking each agency to update information. If you have questions about the new website, please contact Jodi Roth-Saks, Director of the Office of Service-Learning and Volunteer Programs, at JRoth@wcupa.edu. Thank you for participating!

**Follow these helpful instructions. Be sure to pay special attention to number 4.**

**To begin, go to: <http://www.wcupa.edu/volunteersearch>**

***Bridging the Community*** was held on **Wednesday, March 09, 2016 at South Mill/Kaolin Mushroom, 649 South St., Kennett Square, PA 19348.** Forty-four happy community members attended the 106<sup>th</sup> Bridging meeting/gathering.

**The next meeting will be held on Wednesday, May 11, 2016 at 7pm at First Baptist Church, 415 W. State Street, Kennett Square, PA 19348.**

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We started the meeting with a Moment of Silence to care about those affected by immigration.

**Jeanne Searer** shared the Framework and **Joan Holliday** shared the Guiding Principles. **Dave Haradon** co-facilitated the Bridging meeting with **Jeanne Searer**.

**The overall context is our living philosophy, reflected by our land's energy/spirit - *peaceful, progressive, inclusivity.*** “Bridging” promotes this living philosophy.

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**Guiding Principles:**

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**Joan Holliday** announced that David Haradon has been selected as The Outstanding Citizen of 2015 by The SCC Chamber of Commerce. He will receive his award on 3/18/16 at Longwood Gardens. Congratulations and high fives were given. And, thanks to Dave for co-facilitating the *Bridging* meetings and sending out the email notices every meeting!

**Elaine Marnell (HR for Kaolin Mushroom)** told us that Kaolin Mushroom is now a three-generation Pia family business. They have four farms; one in Kennett, Landenberg, Avondale and West Grove. They have 750 workers and produce a million pounds of mushrooms a week. They are the fourth or fifth largest mushroom company in the US. 84% of the workers are Hispanic and come from Morolean, Mexico, in the state of Guanajuato. Most of the workers are related, and there are long-time employees, who now have college graduate children, as Luis and Lucero Benites, working on the business-side.

**New Attendees introduced themselves:**

**Alexia Brown, Kya Brown, Maggie Dempsey, Emma Demsey and Calista** (Girl Scouts from Unionville MS) are looking for ways to volunteer in the community and accomplish their Silver Award. Contact their mother’s emails below.

**Lisa Brown and Karen Dempsey** (Co-Chairs of the Unionville MS Girl Scout Troop) are willing to be contacted if anyone has volunteer needs or ideas for projects.

Email: [bisabl@verizon.net](mailto:bisabl@verizon.net) or [kmcdemp@aol.com](mailto:kmcdemp@aol.com)

**Carol McDonald** (RN with Bayada) wants to learn more about the community and get ideas for her daughters for volunteer projects. Email: [GSEP.TROOP.4182@gmail.com](mailto:GSEP.TROOP.4182@gmail.com)

**Cindy Kreh** (Chester County Women's Services) told us that CCWS provides free pregnancy testing, limited ultrasound, education about parenting options, a variety of classes including childbirth and parenting, material assistance, and referrals to other social services. There is a Center in Kennett Square, 645 E. Baltimore Pike. Services are FREE. They have another Center in West Chester and Coatesville. They serve about 500 clients yearly.

Email: [cindy@ccwsmedical.org](mailto:cindy@ccwsmedical.org)

**Angelica Wright** (Child & Family Focus) told us they are located at 503 N. Walnut Rd. Suite 335, Kennett Square. They help families with children, who are at risk for out-of-home placement, with planning how to deal with mental health issues. They have two job openings. One position as a facilitator with a Bachelor's degree and is bi-lingual. The second is for a Youth Support Partner between 18-25 years, who has stabilized a mental health issue and can be a support to families. Email: [awright@childandfamilyfocus.org](mailto:awright@childandfamilyfocus.org)

**Betsy Beehler** (Willowtree Hospice) told us that she is a Hospice Community Liason and is looking for opportunities to provide education about the Hospice services available to community members. Email: [betsyb@willowtreehospice.com](mailto:betsyb@willowtreehospice.com)

**Leann Riloff** (La Comunidad Hispana) told us that LCH offers medical care, social services and education. They take insurance and their doors are open to all community members. They will have their first 5K this fall. Email: [lriloff@lchps.org](mailto:lriloff@lchps.org)

**Lorenzo Merino** (DNB Bank) told us that he is the Assistant Branch Manager at DNB First, 215 E. Cypress Street, Kennett. He would like to get more involved in the community and offer more services to the Hispanic community members through financial education classes.

Email: [lmerino@dnbfirst.com](mailto:lmerino@dnbfirst.com)

**Claudia Turner** (Path stone) told us that they have started the Pre-K Counts from 8am to 1:30pm and have 17 children enrolled. Income guidelines are higher than the Migrant Head Start Program and children do not need to be from a migrant family to apply. They will close in June and re-open in October. Email: [cturner@pathstone.org](mailto:cturner@pathstone.org)

**Marcie Bramucci** (People's Light & Theatre Company) told us that she is the Director of Community Investment. The theatre is working on having more performances that reflect the area's culture, as well as includes more diversity in casting. She is inviting us to "A Single Shard" that runs from 4/29/16 to 5/26/16. It is a powerful and uplifting coming-of-age story that

follows an orphan in 12th Century Korea who strives to be a master potter and find a better life. Told with puppetry and live music, this timeless journey of persistence, humility, and perseverance captivates audiences of all ages. Email: [bramucci@peopleslight.org](mailto:bramucci@peopleslight.org)

**Yessica Luna and Roseline Vazquez** (CCMCHC Family Center) told us that they are looking for volunteers to help them with their Transition to Kindergarten education classes and child care. They need volunteers from 6/2/16 to 6/30/16 from 12:30pm to 5pm.

Emails: [yluna@ccmchc.org](mailto:yluna@ccmchc.org); [rvazquez@ccmchc.org](mailto:rvazquez@ccmchc.org)

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

**Albert McCarthy** (Previous Chief of Kennett Police and Kennett Township) told us that after 42 years of service, he is now retired. He is looking for avenues to stay involved as a community volunteer. He recalls that he was one of the first persons on the organizing team for Bridging. He is considering going around to the different youth programs and expressing appreciation for the difference they have made, as well as to the many other non-profits. He feels that Kennett has really grown into a peaceful, caring community.

Email: [AMcCARTHY-KENNETT@comcast.com](mailto:AMcCARTHY-KENNETT@comcast.com)

**Hannah Greenburg** (The Land Conservancy for SCC) told us that she is the Education Coordinator and is looking for volunteers for May 14<sup>th</sup> for the Stateline Woods Reserve Trail Run for Conservation. They need help with the trail and the free kid's activities. They are looking for another naturalist educator. Email: [education@tlcforscc.org](mailto:education@tlcforscc.org)

**Sandy Tapia** (S&L Services) told us that she and her partner Luis have started their own printing business, 201 S. Willow St., Kennett Square, PA. They are willing to work with the community and also offer discounts. Phone: 610-444-2010. Fax: 610-444-2012

[copy@slservices.space](mailto:copy@slservices.space) or Email: [slservices@squarespace.com](mailto:slservices@squarespace.com)

**Sheila Tekavec** (The Hadley Fund and Friends Meeting) encouraged us to take advantage of the many wonderful FREE programs offered by the Hadley Fund. There will be a Celtic Celebration on 3/12/16 at Unionville Elementary School at 7:30pm and *Very Hungry Caterpillar and Other Eric Carle Favorites* at UHS on 3/19/16 at 2pm. Email: [theadleyfund@gmail.com](mailto:theadleyfund@gmail.com)

Sheila also gave information about the **Rainbow Chorale** of Delaware on 4/2/16 at 7:30pm at First & Central Presbyterian Church, 1101 N Market St., Rodney Square, Wilmington, DE 19801. Check out the web site at: [www.TheRainbowChorale.org](http://www.TheRainbowChorale.org)

**Jeanne Searer** (Casa Guanajuato) told us that Casa Guanajuato will have their Fundraiser GALA on 2/12/16. Tickets are \$55. Also, Cinco de Mayo is on for 5/1/16 and the web site will have application for vendors very soon. Keep checking. Email: [jeannecrew491@hotmail.com](mailto:jeannecrew491@hotmail.com)

**Keith Smithyman** (Community) told us about GLOBAL AID NETWORK. He is working with released prisoners on a project of repairing used wheelchairs for countries, who will receive them. Steve Baker can be contacted for other projects that churches, groups and individuals may help. Email: [steve.baker@gainusa.org](mailto:steve.baker@gainusa.org) or Email: [Keithsmithyman@gmail.com](mailto:Keithsmithyman@gmail.com)

**Ann Smithyman** (Community) told us about another project with GLOBAL AID NETWORK that involves soliciting used flannel cloth donations to be used for sanitary pads for Third World Countries and then sewing them. Willowdale Chapel is organizing one event for this. Contact: [steve.baker@gainusa.org](mailto:steve.baker@gainusa.org)

**Deborah Steeves** (Attorney for Legal Aid) that she would like to get the word out about all the services that Legal Aid provides ranging from landlord/tenant disputes, to bankruptcy, Social Security Disability, divorce, and others. She is available to give a Presentation. Legal Aid is looking for a bi-lingual secretary. Email: [dsteeves@lasp.org](mailto:dsteeves@lasp.org)

**Joan Holliday** (Community) told us that she attends The Kennett Inter-Generational Coffee Klatch every Thursday at 11am at The Market at Liberty Place. All community members are welcome! Please join us! An idea that was proposed at The Klatch was starting an Artisan's Market in Kennett Square. If anyone is interested, please contact Joan for more information. Email: [dochollisv@aol.com](mailto:dochollisv@aol.com)

She also announced that Citizenship Day is 4/09/16. Do you have a green card? Do you want to vote in the election? Do you want to become a citizen? You must attend an information session to see if you qualify on 4/4/16 from 5pm to 8pm at St. Rocco Center, 9016 Gap Newport Rd., Avondale, PA. Contact: (484) 868-4814.

**PLEASE NOTE:** If you are concerned about a person dealing with homelessness, please give them the centralized phone number that will start help. **Connect Points** at: 1-800-935-3181

**Kathy Do** (ED After the Bell) told us that they have the highest enrollment of students to date. This means they need more volunteers. The next six-week session starts 4/19/16 through 5/26/16. Volunteers may provide two hours a week from 3-5pm. There will be a "No Foolin'" Fundraiser on 04/01/16. If anyone has any good Knock Knock jokes please send it to her for the Fundraiser. Email: [executivedirector@afterthebell.org](mailto:executivedirector@afterthebell.org)

**Deanna Koepcke** (Community) helped facilitate an event at New Garden AME Church entitled, "Start a Conversation about Race." It had speakers and small group dialogue with about thirty-five people. There will be another event in the future. Deanna learned at *Bridging* in January that there are other groups working on race relations—MLK Advocates and Friends Meeting with whom she is now partnering. The community is invited to join the effort. Email: [dkoepcke@hotmail.com](mailto:dkoepcke@hotmail.com)

**Holly Poole** (CCHD Public Health Nurse) makes home nursing visits in the Kennett area with Teen MOMs. After a Bridging meeting, she brings back information to her clients and to her colleagues about available resources. She expressed appreciation for what she is learning about the broader community at Bridging. Email: [hpoole@chesco.org](mailto:hpoole@chesco.org)

**Milena Lanz** (Associate Director of Health and Social Services of Home of the Sparrow) told us that they are serving homeless women across Chester County and provide comprehensive services, along with health and social services towards sustainability. They are receiving more referrals from SCC. They are now hosting an event every Tuesday from 10am to 12pm at St. Rocco Center, 9016 Gap Newport Pike, Avondale, PA 19311 to meet with a Bilingual Program Coordinator to discuss housing needs. Email: [mlanz@homeofthesparrow.org](mailto:mlanz@homeofthesparrow.org)

**Milena Lanz** also told us about the **Single Mother's Conference** on 4/9/16 from 8am to 3pm. There will be transportation from St. Rocco's at 7am and also babysitting is provided. There will be panel discussions on topics of interest, breakfast and lunch and pampering! Registration: <https://chescosupermom2016.eventbrite.com> or call: 484-876-1582.

**Martin Odom** (Recent Retiree) is looking for meaningful volunteer opportunities. He attended *Bridging* in January and is still investigating. He currently volunteers for CC Emergency Services with ham radio. He has a Science background. Email: [kb3pcy@gmail.com](mailto:kb3pcy@gmail.com)

**Alejandra Escamilla** (New US resident) told us that she moved from Mexico to be with her mother, Theresa Escamilla, who was in attendance with Salvador Villicana. She is interested in learning about our American culture and learning English. She attended the November Bridging meeting and told of her interest in finding a job. She has her a college degree from Mexico. She now works in the kitchen at The Kennett Area Senior Center and is so happy. She sings the praises of the Center and caring hearts that work with the seniors. She is practicing English in this setting. She also praised the *Bridging* process and the experience of community members working together for the common good. She also is receiving help from a Kendal resident, who she met at Bridging in January. The volunteer visits her home and practices English with her and her husband Victor.

**Laura Mackiewicz** (LCH Outreach) told us that they have Free State Tax Service every Saturday starting at 9am. Get there early to sign-up. Also, ACTIVATE Kennett Square is starting up Community Walks on April 8<sup>th</sup> at 3pm every Friday through the fall. Meet in the main parking lot at Anson B Nixon. Email: [LMackiewicz@lchps.org](mailto:LMackiewicz@lchps.org)

**Luis Benites** (Kaolin Mushroom Recruiter) told us that they are being creative with their job offerings. They have a job opening for a full-time harvester position and then are offering part-time positions from 9am to 2pm/5 days a week. They are providing transportation from Delaware for some workers and are hoping to have transportation in Kennett at some point. Email: [lbenites@southmill.com](mailto:lbenites@southmill.com)

**Lizabeth Conners** (KASC) told us that they have an Assisted Senior Program for seniors in early stage dementia. They have a Community Breakfast the first Monday of the month from 7am to 9am. Email: [lconners@kennettSeniorcenter.org](mailto:lconners@kennettSeniorcenter.org)

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

- Cathy Brison “bridged” with the Girl Scouts about a volunteer opportunity at Camp Cadet in Oxford. They need clean-up before camp starts. She also “bridged” with Sheila Tekavec about the free Hadley series.
- Kecia McMillion (Center Director of Education for Sylvan Learning of Newark) told us that Sylvan would like to provide services in the SCC area and she “bridged” with After the Bell to finally find a way to bring them into this after-school setting. Check their web site at: [www.sylvannewark.com](http://www.sylvannewark.com). Email: [keciamcm@me.com](mailto:keciamcm@me.com)
- Sandy Tapia “bridged” with Lisa Brown around Girl Scouts “shadowing” the design work that is done at her printing shop, or with her job with an Immigration Attorney.
- Marcie Bramucci “bridged” with Karen Dempsey about the Girl Scouts working on a Theatre badge. She also “bridged” with Milena Lanz about Home of the Sparrow clients attending plays at People’s Light Theatre and Lizabeth Connors about Senior Center members attending.
- Holly Poole “bridged” with Cindy Kreh about their services and ways to partner around parenting classes. She also “bridged” with Sheila Tekavec to obtain brochures about free Hadley events for her clients and with Home of the Sparrow around housing issues.
- Deborah Steeves “bridged” with Sandy Tapia around a need for a print shop for their fundraiser and with Leann Riloff about a bi-lingual secretary and with Sheila Tekavec for information about free Hadley events for her clients. She also “bridged” with Roseline Vazquez about ways to worked around the undocumented parents need for legal advice, by identifying the child as the legal citizen, who may receive services for the family.
- Hannah Greenburg “bridged” with the Girl Scouts about several volunteers projects, in which could get involved.
- Sheila Tekavec “bridged” with several attendees around the Free Hadley events and with Deanna Koepcke around “Race Relations,” as her church is involved in this. And, she still would like to speak to Marcie Bramucci about People’s Light and Theatre.
- Jeanne Searer “bridged” with Angelica Wright about potential candidates for Child & Family Focus job positions and with Deborah Steeves for a bi-lingual secretary.
- Carol McDonald “bridged” with Marcie Bramucci about plays for the Girl Scouts and with Jeanne Searer around Senior Center involvement.
- Joan Holliday “bridged” with Betsy Beehler about the Artisan Market. Betsy has a Shop in West Grove that has over 150 artisan works sold. She would be willing to offer support in the set-up, as she has learned through her personal experience. She also gave a name of a potential interested artisan, who does silk-screening. Joan also “bridged” with Holly Poole with Family Promise information referrals in SCC.
- Kathy Do “bridged” with Martin Odom about After the Bell volunteering.

The group then mingled, enjoying the tangerines and seltzers provided by Kaolin Mushroom. Each attendee took home a box of Kaolin mushrooms as a gift!

***Bridging the Community*** was held on **Wednesday, May 11, 2016 at First Baptist Church, 415 W. State Street, Kennett Square, PA 19348.** Thirty-four engaging community members attended the 107<sup>th</sup> Bridging meeting/gathering.

**The next meeting will be held on Wednesday, July 13, 2016 at His Mission, 342 E. Birch Street, Kennett Square, PA; Phone: 610-444-2559. This will be our Annual Community Picnic at 6:00pm. Bring a healthy item to share. Meeting starts at 7pm.**

Minutes of *Bridging* meetings are posted on the web site: [www.bridgingcommunity.com](http://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.

We started the meeting with a prayer led by Nancy Nicewonger.

**Nancy Nicewonger** told us that Pastor Dan Nicewonger has recently been diagnosed with cancer and to keep him in our prayers. Following is the information she shared about First Baptist Church. She told us that there is a NeT youth group that meets every Wednesday and they are upstairs tonight. Their Sunday worship is at 11am. They have a Day Care with 34 children from 6 weeks old to first grade. They have a Senior Luncheon the last Thursday of the month and all community seniors invited. They hold AA Support Groups and will be starting a Re-Entry Citizens Group as a support for released prisoners. Email: [nnicewonger@gmail.com](mailto:nnicewonger@gmail.com)

**Joan Holliday** shared the Framework and **Laura Gonzalez** shared the Guiding Principles. **Dave Haradon** co-facilitated the Bridging meeting with **Laura Gonzalez**.

**The overall context is our living philosophy, reflected by our land's energy/spirit - *peaceful, progressive, inclusivity.*** "Bridging" promotes this living philosophy.

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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**

**New Attendees introduced themselves:**

**Hilda Rivera** (American Heart Association) told us about the *Eat, Play, Learn* event to be held on Saturday, 6/25/16 from 10am to 2pm at Kennett High School. All community members invited. Sponsors and vendors are needed. Email: [hilda.rivera@heart.org](mailto:hilda.rivera@heart.org)

**Steve Denno** (Kennett Community Park Gardens) told us that that he and his wife are carrying on the project that Suzanne Van Metro started eight years ago in Anson B Nixon Park with

raised garden beds. To date they have 39 beds and 4 are dedicated for produce for the Kennett Food Cupboard. Laura Gonzalez has recruited Latino families, who now make-up about 35% of the gardeners. They will be moving their gardening site in the park to a larger area. They will need volunteers and fundraising when this happens within the year. Keep them in mind, as you look for volunteer opportunities. Email: [Steve.denno1@verizon.net](mailto:Steve.denno1@verizon.net)

**Karen Martin** (Kennett Square Resale Shoppe) is the new manager. She wants community members to know about this outstanding bookstore at 113 S. Union St. Kennett Square. They will have a Wine and Cheese Customer Appreciation event with 10% off on Saturday, 5/14/16. There will be a photography class the following Saturday. Check out their Face book Page. Email: [furrytails4426@hotmail.com](mailto:furrytails4426@hotmail.com)

**Joe Birmingham** (Kennett Square Living magazine) told us that he and Pam Eppinger are starting a community local magazine that will go to over 4,000 homes. They are looking for businesses, who would like to advertize. The magazine will promote upcoming events in the community and will showcase families in the community. If you have any events to promote and/or families to recommend, please email: [PhoenixPress1@gmail.com](mailto:PhoenixPress1@gmail.com) Joe's personal email is: [josephobirmingham@gmail.com](mailto:josephobirmingham@gmail.com)

**Pam Eppinger** (Unionville Fair) told us that she has been hired to be the Fair Manager this year. Planned dates are: September 30<sup>th</sup> and October 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup>. She also told us that there will be a Landenberg Day at Borderland Vineyards, 332 Indiantown Road, Landenberg, PA on 8/6/16 and Rain Date 8/7/16. They will need a variety of volunteers---someone to manage the crowds for safety; a person with a food handler's license; and a supervisor for the children. Email: [PhoenixPress2@gmail.com](mailto:PhoenixPress2@gmail.com)

**Linda Traver** (Community) told us that she was invited to Bridging by someone from the Kennett Community Coffee Klatch. She is interested in hearing about volunteer opportunities with small children. Email: [lmht912@gmail.com](mailto:lmht912@gmail.com)

**Steve Baker** (Global Aid Network) told us that he is a Coordinator for Mobile Events to support Third World Countries with food and supply needs. He would like groups to create events to help pack food items or cut out materials for a most needed item. Email: [steve.baker@gainusa.org](mailto:steve.baker@gainusa.org)

**Mary Ann Piccard** (Community Member) would like to get an Artist's Market started in the town of Kennett Square. She is looking for interested persons to join her in this effort. Email: [hobbyist2037@verizon.net](mailto:hobbyist2037@verizon.net)

**Cameron Rochester** (Four Year Old Grandson of Esther Rochester) will be 5 years old on 5/17/16. We sang "Happy Birthday" to him.

**Genesis Toledo** (Community) told us that she is an accountant at Fenstermacher & Co LLP. She wants to learn more about the community and to volunteer. Email: [gtoledo@fandco.com](mailto:gtoledo@fandco.com)

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

**Milena Lanz** (Associate Director of Health and Social Services of Home of the Sparrow) told us that they are serving homeless women across Chester County and provide comprehensive services, along with health and social services towards sustainability. They are receiving more referrals from SCC. They host an event every Tuesday from 10am to 12pm at St. Rocco Center, 9016 Gap Newport Pike, Avondale, PA 19311 to meet with a Bilingual Program Coordinator to discuss housing needs. Email: [mlanz@homeofthesparrow.org](mailto:mlanz@homeofthesparrow.org)

**Claudia Turner** (Path Stone) told us that Pre-K Counts from 8am to 1:30pm will run from August through June. Income guidelines are higher than the Migrant Head Start Program and children do not need to be from a migrant family to apply. Migrant Head Start Program, for migrant worker families, runs from October through March. They appreciate volunteers. Email: [cturner@pathstone.org](mailto:cturner@pathstone.org)

**Mary Pat Knauss** (Wings for Success) told us about the location in Kennett at: 457 Birch St.; Phone: 610-444-1446. They provide free quality work-appropriate clothing and scrubs to disadvantaged and economically challenged women through a nurturing experience that not only prepares them for job training, interviews and the workplace, but also fosters hope and confidence. Email: [mary.pat.Knauss@gmail.com](mailto:mary.pat.Knauss@gmail.com)

**Lizbeth Conners** (Kennett Area Senior Center) told us that she had four events to advertize:

- 1) Monthly Sunday dinners; next is 5/15/16 from 1-3pm. Pay at the door and enjoy music too.
- 2) GLAM Senior Prom to be put on by KHS Honor Society on 5/21/16 from 6-9pm. Community seniors are welcome.
- 3) Indoor Garage Sale on Saturday 6/4/16 8am to 3pm. There are great items. Also, you may donate items.
- 4) Tea Party on 6/14/16 from 2:30-4:00pm. Email: [lconners@kennettseiorcenter.org](mailto:lconners@kennettseiorcenter.org)

**Kayle Higgins** (Chester County Women's Services) told us that CCWS provides free pregnancy testing, limited ultrasound, education about parenting options, a variety of classes including childbirth and parental support, material assistance, and referrals to other social services. There is a Center in Kennett Square, 645 E. Baltimore Pike. Services are FREE. They have another Center in West Chester and Coatesville. They serve about 500 clients yearly. Email: [kayle@ccwsmedical.org](mailto:kayle@ccwsmedical.org)

**Chrissy Shelly** (ARC) is an Education Advocate for Special Needs in the Kennett School District. She is available to help any and all disenfranchised students to become included in the educational process. She appreciates the information from Bridging to provide for her clients. Email Chrissy at: [Chrissyshelly@gmail.com](mailto:Chrissyshelly@gmail.com) or [cshelly@arcofchestercounty.org](mailto:cshelly@arcofchestercounty.org)

**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: [jcordova@pathstone.org](mailto:jcordova@pathstone.org)

**Lorenzo Merino** (DNB Bank) told us that he is the Assistant Branch Manager at DNB First, 215 E. Cypress Street, Kennett. He would like to get more involved in community volunteering. Email: [lmerino@dnbfirst.com](mailto:lmerino@dnbfirst.com)

**Mikey Glass** (The Garage Community & Youth Center) told us about an upcoming event on 6/3/16 from 5:00 to 7:00pm entitled, "Beautiful in Every Shade" There will be a dialogue with free food. From 7:00 to 10:00pm there will a Neon Dance Party. Email: [michael.glass@garageyouthcenter.org](mailto:michael.glass@garageyouthcenter.org)

**Sheila Magendantz** (The Hadley Fund) told us about the upcoming event; Pillow Plays: Children Theatre on 5/14/16 at 2pm at London Grove Friends Meeting. (Ages 6-17 years) She also announced for Jessie Cocks that there will be Playback Theatre on 5/22/16 at 3pm at Kennett Friends Meeting. Email: [thehadleyfund@gmail.com](mailto:thehadleyfund@gmail.com)

**Laura Mackiewicz** (La Comunidad Hispana) told us about the 5K that they will hold the same week-end of *Eat, Play, Learn*. ACTIVATE Kennett Square also promotes a Friday Walk at 3pm. Meet at the front of Anson B Nixon Park for a community walk. Email: [lmackiewicz@lchps.org](mailto:lmackiewicz@lchps.org)

**Kathy Hrenko** (Project Cure) told us that she is the Operations Manager for Project Cure. They are always looking for donated medical supplies to send to countries in need and also are recruiting volunteers and groups to provide support. She also promoted the Longwood Rotary, which provides group of volunteers for community projects. Email: [Kathyhrenko@projectcure.org](mailto:Kathyhrenko@projectcure.org) and check out the web site at: [www.projectcure.org](http://www.projectcure.org)

**Martiza Rivera** (MCHC/The Family Center) told us that they provide in-home teachers for parents with young children to prepare them for kindergarten. They also have a Fatherhood Program and On Thursday, June 16th from 5 – 8pm they would like to honor the 24 Dads in the program, by providing a free entry to the Oasis Family Fun Center in Glenn Mills, PA and bring their children, who Dads will pay for. They are looking for sponsors. Email: [mrivera@ccmchc.org](mailto:mrivera@ccmchc.org)

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

- Shelly Magendantz "bridged" with Laura Mackiewicz about entertainment at LCH. She also "bridged" with Steve Baker about possible projects with Global Aid Network.
- Karen Martin "bridged" with Claudia Turner. The plan is for the Kennett Square Resale Shoppe to provide a library of children's books for Path Stone pre-K students.

- Mary Ann Piccard “bridged” with Joe Birmingham, who will work with her in pursuing the Artist’s Market.
- Lorenzo Merino and Genesis Toledo “bridged” with Steve Denno about volunteering with the Anson B Nixon Community Gardens. Lorenzo also spoke to Hilda Rivera about a DNB sponsorship for *Eat, Play, Learn* Health Fair.
- Claudia Turner “bridged” with Lorenzo Merino about providing financial literacy classes to the parents of Migrant Head Start. She also “bridged” with Linda Traver, who is interested in volunteering in the pre-school classrooms.
- Kathy Hrenko “bridged” with Anne Humes about engaging the Crosslands Community for volunteers at Project Cure.
- Esther Rochester “bridged” with Chrissy Shelly, who will help with one of Esther’s students on the bus with a wheelchair repair.
- Leslie Lessner “bridged” with Project Cure about volunteering.
- Anne Humes “bridged” with Linda Traver, who is interested in learning about volunteer opportunities at Tick Tock Day Care Center.
- Joe Birmingham “bridged” with Karen Martin about a story for Kennett Square Living magazine.
- Joan Holliday “bridged” with Dave Haradon about working out a program, whereby used cars could be donated to families in needs.
- Mikey Glass “bridged” with Cathy Brison about MLK Advocates promoting The Garage event---“Beautiful in Every Shade.”
- Liz Connors “bridged” with several people around the events at the Kennett Area Senior Center. Shelly Magaendantz has items to donate.
- Mary Pat Knauss “bridged” with Karen Martin and Joan Holliday around a discussion of how to leverage each other’s services through a joint event.

***Bridging the Community*** was held on **Wednesday, July 13, 2016 at 342 E. Birch Street, Kennett Square, PA 19348**. Fifty-two engaging community members attended the 108<sup>th</sup> Bridging meeting/gathering on a night that threatened rain, but gave us a cool enjoyable evening instead.

**The next meeting will be held on Wednesday, September 14, 2016 at 7pm at Kendal Community, 1109 Baltimore Pike, Kennett Square, PA 19348.** (Turn left after entrance and park in lot on left on the end of the road--Parking Lot 6.)

Minutes of *Bridging* meetings are posted on the web site: [www.bridgingcommunity.com](http://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.

We started the community gathering at 6pm with our Annual Community Picnic. Healthy foods were provided and meats were grilled by David Haradon and Lorenzo Merino. We held the picnic meeting outside.

**Tina Butcher** told the group that they were happy to once again provide His Mission's site for the annual community picnic. *His Mission* provides shelter, food, clothing and mentoring for the single homeless for the past thirty-two years. Tina told us that as a result of last year's *Bridging* meeting, a caring resident held a yard sale for His Mission and the proceeds helped pay for the fuel bill last winter. Tina also thanked everyone for the toilet paper that was donated last year after the meeting and for tonight's donations. Contact Email: [tamikabutcher@yahoo.com](mailto:tamikabutcher@yahoo.com)

**Joan Holliday** shared the Framework and **Jeanne Searer** shared the Guiding Principles. **Dave Haradon** co-facilitated the Bridging meeting with **Jeanne Searer**.

**The overall context is our living philosophy, reflected by our land's energy/spirit - *peaceful, progressive, inclusivity*.** "Bridging" promotes this living philosophy.

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**New Attendees introduced themselves:**

**Joanne Johnson** (Community) told us that she has moved back to Kennett from Oxford. She is Esther Rochester's sister and daughter of Doris Rochester. She wants to volunteer.

**Peggy Brick** (Kendal Resident and Intergenerational Group) told us she “loved” the experience of the community gathering. Email: [peggybrick@verizon.net](mailto:peggybrick@verizon.net)

**Claire Bowman** (Community) told us that she just moved from Idaho, after college graduation and was working at Chatham Financial. Email: [clairebowman011@gmail.com](mailto:clairebowman011@gmail.com)

**Prescott Delaware** (Community) told us that he was invited by Claire Bowman and that he was a new resident to West Chester. Email: [Prescott.delaware@gmail.com](mailto:Prescott.delaware@gmail.com)

**Nate Holliday** (Community) told us that he was visiting his grandparents, Joan and Bob Holliday for a week and lives in Mountain Lakes, New Jersey.

**Bob Holliday** (Community) told us that he attended Bridging in 2000, when he worked for the Census. He told us about the excellent supportive services that are offered by a non-profit for low-income veterans and families, who are currently experiencing homelessness or are at risk of losing their homes---Veterans Multi-Center Center, 605 E. Lincoln Hwy, Coatesville, PA 19320; Phone: 610-384-8387. Bob is involved in Coatesville Chamber of Commerce. Email: [uwholliday@gmail.com](mailto:uwholliday@gmail.com)

**Kelsey Sevenski** (La Comunidad Hispana) told us that she is a West Chester University intern at La Comunidad Hispana. She announced that the agency is having a contest on Face book. “Like” the page and click on an icon to learn about sun safety; then, send a selfie of you wearing skin protection, or wearing a sun hat. A basket of beach goodies is the prize. Email: [ksevenski@lchps.org](mailto:ksevenski@lchps.org)

**Lucille Koenig** (Kendal Resident) told us that she came to the meeting to learn about Bridging.

**Deborah Tanksley Brown** (Church of the Open Door) told us that she is a Deacon at Church of the Open Door and is looking for interested persons to help organize collections of emergency items for Emergency Backpacks to be distributed to agencies in SCC, who help serve the homeless. She also told us that her church is conducting a series of discussions using [TED Talks on Race](#); these will be held on the 2nd Thursday of each month from 5:30pm to 7:00pm. While the specific discussion-starter selections may change as seems appropriate, this is the current line-up

- Jul. 14: [Color Blind or Color Brave? - Mellody Hobson](#)
- Aug. 11: [How we're priming some kids for college - and others for prison - Alice Goffman](#)
- Sep. 8: [Does Racism Affect How You Vote? - Nate Silver](#)
- Oct. 13: [We need to talk about an injustice - Bryan Stevenson](#)

Email: [dtanksleybrown@comcast.net](mailto:dtanksleybrown@comcast.net)

**Gustavo Castaneda** (Willowdale Chaplain and Young Dads) told us that he has lived in the area for one year. Laura Gonzalez encouraged him to attend a Bridging meeting. He is from Columbia and learned that another attendee was from Columbia. Email: [gucastan@gmail.com](mailto:gucastan@gmail.com)

**Jan Michener** (AH-HAH—Arts Holding Hands and Hearts) told us that she will be conducting a session entitled, “Share Your Stories” at the Kennett Area Senior Center starting the second week of September. Contact the Senior Center for Share Your Stories session at: 610-444-4819. She also has work based in Coatesville, PA, where AHHAH is on a mission to use the expressive arts, yoga, and mindfulness based activities and engage young and old in building connections, finding alternatives to stress, violence, and incarceration, and increasing the academic success of at-risk youth. They have 75 pop-up donated book sites. To donate books contact Jan at: [Jan.Michener@ah-hah.us](mailto:Jan.Michener@ah-hah.us)

**Patricia Muller** (Kennett Township) told us that she is the Economic Development Director for Kennett Township. She came because of an enthusiastic invitation from Joan Holliday. Email: [Patricia.Muller@kennett.pa.us](mailto:Patricia.Muller@kennett.pa.us)

**Melody Caulfield** (Community) told us that she is an analyst and provides services to non-profits, who would like to develop data to reflect the results they are achieving. Kathy Do invited her because she had been so helpful with After the Bell information and thought other non-profits could benefit from Melody’s services. Email: [melodycaulfield@gmail.com](mailto:melodycaulfield@gmail.com)

**Christine McDonald** (Friends Home) told us that she is the new Executive Director for Friends Home in town. She plans to stay involved in the broader community. Email: [CMcDonald@fhkennett.org](mailto:CMcDonald@fhkennett.org)

**Karen Cromley** (Kendal Resident) told us that she came with the Kendal group to learn more about Bridging.

**Alice Long** (Kendal Resident) told us that she has a skill to share with After the Bell---English Bowling.

**John Patton** (Community) was interested in hearing about the community events.

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

**Laura Mackiewicz** (La Comunidad Hispana) told us that they offer Health Care Mon.-Thurs. 8am to 8pm and 8-12pm on Fridays. They also will be providing a GED in Spanish in Oxford. They are happy to announce that they will have a dental clinic in the fall. Email: [LMackiewicz@lchps.org](mailto:LMackiewicz@lchps.org)

**Anne Humes** (Kendal Resident) spoke on behalf of Jennifer Lewis from *Together for Education*. This is a volunteer opportunity to tutor/mentor 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> graders from Kennett’s elementary

schools. The volunteer may choose the day best for him/her; time of day and it only requires 30-45 minutes a week. Contact Jennifer Lewis at: [jlewis@tfed.org](mailto:jlewis@tfed.org)

**Pam Eppinger** (Unionville Fair) told us that as the Unionville Fair Manager this year, she wanted us to know that the Fair will take place on September 30<sup>th</sup> and October 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> and that the following week-end will be the Rodeo. She needs volunteers.

Email: [PhoenixPress2@gmail.com](mailto:PhoenixPress2@gmail.com) Pam also told us about a community person, who has a serious medical problem and has to give up her pets. If anyone is interested in providing a loving home for **Ahimsa** 3 yr. Jack Russell/Chihuahau; **Lakota**, 10 year old SWETT Pug mix; **Guy and Princess**, who are 12 year old sister and brother cats or **Paco**, a 12 year old calico, Contact: Jamie Cruz at 610-802-5853.

**Kathy Hrenko** (Project Cure) told us that she is the Operations Manager for Project Cure. They are always looking for donated medical supplies to send to countries in need and also are recruiting volunteers and groups to provide support. She also promoted the Longwood Rotary and Rotaract Club (for 18-30 year olds), which provides a group of volunteers for community projects. Email: [Kathyhrenko@projectcure.org](mailto:Kathyhrenko@projectcure.org) and check out the web site at: [www.projectcure.org](http://www.projectcure.org)

**Lizbeth Conners** (Kennett Senior Center Information and Assistance Coordinator) told us that they have many opportunities for volunteering. They need volunteers for Sunday afternoon dinners; Friday bingo nights and Special Events. Email: [lconners@kennettseiorcenter.org](mailto:lconners@kennettseiorcenter.org)

**Joe Birmingham** (Kennett Square Living magazine) told us that Landenberg Day at Borderland Vineyards, 332 Indiantown Road, Landenberg, PA on 8/6/16 and Rain Date 8/7/16; 9am-9pm has plans for over 1,000 attendees. They will need a variety of volunteers---someone to manage the crowds for safety; a person with a food handler's license; and a supervisor for the children. Email: [PhoenixPress2@gmail.com](mailto:PhoenixPress2@gmail.com)

**Kathy Do** (ED After the Bell) told us that they are recruiting community members to share their passions/hobbies in an enrichment program for Kennett Middle School youth. The fall session will be 9/27 to 11/2/16 on Tues., Weds. Thurs. Volunteers are greatly needed one day a week for six weeks. Email: [executivedirector@afterthebell.org](mailto:executivedirector@afterthebell.org)

**Kris Russomagno** (Community) told us about the weekly Kennett Coffee Klatch, which takes place on Thursdays, 11am to noon at The Market at Liberty Place, 148 W. State St., Kennett Square. Come join lively community interactions, involving the young and the senior and learn about life and your community. Email: [kris.russomagno@gmail.com](mailto:kris.russomagno@gmail.com)

**Annalie Korengel** (Unionville Presbyterian Church) told us that she is President of The Family Promise Board---a non-profit that works with 13 Host Churches and 13 Support Churches to help homeless families get back on their feet. They have served 13 families since the end of 2015. To volunteer at Family Promise Day Room--Phone Number: 610-345-1100.

**Jeanne Searer** (Community) told us that Casa Guanajuato will participate in 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday in Kennett, when a block of State Street is blocked off for family dining and community involvement. They will provide cultural activities in September. She also told us there will be another *Dia de los Mortes*, Friday, November 4<sup>th</sup> at The American Legion, to celebrate a Latino cultural practice of honoring the dead. Jeanne teaches a Behavioral Modification Weight Loss class and a new one starts 8/24/16 at the Kennett Area Senior Center. Call Jeanne at: 484-467-8011 or Email: [jeannecrew491@hotmail.com](mailto:jeannecrew491@hotmail.com)

**Sheila Tekavec** (The Hadley Fund) is setting-up new programs for the fall. All of the Arts and Culture educational and enrichment events are provided by a legacy donor. La Comunidad Hispana will be a partner for one of the events this next year. She also told us that she is working with the Kennett Area Democrats and that they have a table at the library every Wednesday from 3-5pm to promote voter registration to encourage voting for either party. Email: [thehadleyfund@gmail.com](mailto:thehadleyfund@gmail.com)

**Janet Zeis** (Chester County Emergency Services) told us that Chester County now accepts text messages for 911 to assist the hard of hearing and those who are in danger by calling on the phone. She also told us that Chester County offers information and referral 24 hours by dialing 211. Email: [jzeis@chesco.org](mailto:jzeis@chesco.org)

**Janet** is on the board of *Home of the Sparrow*. They are serving homeless women across Chester County and provide comprehensive services, along with health and social services towards sustainability. They host an event every Tuesday from 10am to 12pm at St. Rocco Center, 9016 Gap Newport Pike, Avondale, PA 19311 to meet with a Bilingual Program Coordinator to discuss housing needs. Email: [mlanz@homeofthesparrow.org](mailto:mlanz@homeofthesparrow.org)

**Janet Cordova and Danielle DeLuca** (Path Stone) left information about their 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: [jcordova@pathstone.org](mailto:jcordova@pathstone.org) or [ddlecua@pathstone.org](mailto:ddlecua@pathstone.org)

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

- Deborah Tanksley Brown “bridged” with Kris Russomagno, Anne Humes, Kathy Do and Maritza Rivera about collecting items for the Emergency Backpacks for agencies, working with the homeless. She also ‘bridged’ with Anne Humes around *Together for Education* and with Sheila Tekavec about the Kennett Coffee Klatch. Deborah described her interactions as reciprocal---she will share information she learned at Bridging with

the Church of the Open Door and she is giving the community an opportunity with the Ted Talk dialogues at her church.

- Nate Holliday “bridged” with Sheila Tekavec about the brother-sister cats that need to be adopted. He will share the flyer with his parents, because they don’t think that their 19 year old cat will be around very long.
- Anne Humes “bridged” with His Mission by recruiting community members to bring toilet paper for the mission. We passed the hat at this time for a donation to His Mission.
- Sheila Tekavec “bridged” with Claire Bowman, who will help with the voter registration at the library, as she found out that Claire is bi-lingual. She “bridged” with Anne Humes around *Together for Education*. She “bridged” with Laura Mackiewicz around event with Hadley at LCH;
- Liz Conners “bridged” with Joanne Johnson and Esther Rochester, who have offered to volunteer at Kennett Senior Center.
- Kathy Hrenko “bridged” with Genesis Toledo, an accountant at Fenstermacher & Co LLP around joining Rotaract. She also ‘bridged” with Jan Michener around the AH HAH program for After the Bell. She also “bridged” with Karen Martin, whose husband is a retiree from the pharmaceutical world and could help with Project Cure.
- Kathy Do “bridged” with Kendal residents around the subject of “civility” for youth. In light of some of the recent political and national events, teachers and community members need to find ways to bring perspective and healthy communication.
- Jan Michener “bridged” with several community members who have been a part of a county-wide network to support children, who have experienced trauma.
- Janet Zeis “bridged” with Maritza Rivera from The Family Center to help the center develop an Emergency Plan and a Continuity of Operation Plan. She also “bridged” with Melody Caulfield about her data analysis and with David Haradon about Operation Warm.
- Lorenzo Merino “bridged” with Jeanne Searer about becoming involved with Casa Guanajuato and with Daniella DeLuca about Path Stone.
- Joan Holliday “bridged” with Pat Muller from Kennett Township and shared her reflections of how Pat is now in a role to bring together three townships; “bridging” governments, while we are “bridging” residents and the community needs and resources. She also “bridged” with Gustavo Castaneda around his role with Young Dad’s and my appreciation for his good work.
- Annalie Korengel “bridged” with Gustavo Castaneda about the Young Dad’s program and a need she has in her congregation.
- David Haradon presented Tina Butcher/His Mission with \$116 donation, which was collected by passing the hat at the meeting.

***Bridging the Community*** was held on September 14, 2016 at Kendal Community, 1109 Baltimore Pike, Kennett Square, PA 19348. Fifty-four inter-generational community members attended the 109<sup>th</sup> Bridging meeting/gathering on a warm autumn evening.

**The next meeting will be held on Wednesday, November 09, 2016 at 7pm at Pathstone, 421 McFarland Rd., Kennett Square, PA 19348.**

Minutes of *Bridging* meetings are posted on the web site: [www.bridgingcommunity.com](http://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** led us in a moment of silence to recognize the lost lives of 9/11 and to remember their loved ones.

**Anne Humes**, Kendal resident told us that Kendal has been around for forty-two years; their current average age is 84 years old. She told us that they are not a “closed group” and are concerned citizens and involved in the broader community. They will have forty English tutors helping Kennett, Spanish-speaking residents this month at Kendal, which began with twelve tutors last year. They also are involved with pre-school through high school youth with different volunteer efforts. They have especially taken an interest in His Mission homeless shelter and recently helped with food for His Mission, when Tina left on a trip to see family.

**Joan Holliday** shared the Framework and **Jeanne Searer** shared the Guiding Principles. **Dave Haradon** co-facilitated the Bridging meeting with **Jeanne Searer**.

**The overall context is our living philosophy, reflected by our land's energy/spirit - *peaceful, progressive, inclusivity*.** “Bridging” promotes this living philosophy.

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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**

**New Attendees introduced themselves:**

**Terry and Elizabeth Stinson** (The Oaks Ministry) told us about their transitional housing and Christian-based support services for women who would be actively working towards financial stability and other related activities. They are new and would like to receive input from the community. The web site is: [www.oxfordoaksministry.com](http://www.oxfordoaksministry.com); Email: [terrinstinson@comcast.net](mailto:terrinstinson@comcast.net)

**Marina Haley** (Recent Cabrini Graduate) told us that she has received mentoring from Kathy Do through “Best Buddies” during her high school years. Kathy encouraged her to come to Bridging to get the word out that she is looking for work. She has a resume and would like to work in a supportive role with children or seniors. She has strong social media skills.

Email: [marinajhaley@gmail.com](mailto:marinajhaley@gmail.com)

**Janis Reynolds** (Kennett School Board) is active in the school district and is looking for volunteer work that fits her. Email: [Chaddsford19317@yahoo.com](mailto:Chaddsford19317@yahoo.com)

**Jen <sup>Oressff</sup> and Charles Streitwieser** told us that they are Longwood Rotarians and always invite new members to their club, which promotes, “Service above self.”

Email: [streitwieser@verizon.net](mailto:streitwieser@verizon.net)

**Yessica Lopez** (MCHC the Kennett Family Center) told us that she and her colleagues provide home services to families with children under five years to promote kindergarten-readiness. She would like to learn about resources for her clients. Email: [ylopez@ccmchc.org](mailto:ylopez@ccmchc.org)

**Joanne Johnson** (Community) told the group that she has moved to the Kennett area and that she has known Joan Holliday since her three children were babies, when Joan was their public health nurse.

**Brigette Alexander** (Kendal) is interested in what is happening in the Kennett community.

Email: [gitte234@verizon.net](mailto:gitte234@verizon.net)

**Bill Van Wie** (Crosslands) told us that he is working on Voter Registration with October 12<sup>th</sup> being the deadline. Email: [wav1@columbia.edu](mailto:wav1@columbia.edu)

**Sharon Sundial** (Crosslands) is a Geriatric Social Worker and is interested in volunteer opportunities: Email: [ssundial01@verizon.net](mailto:ssundial01@verizon.net)

**Barb Smith** (Kendal) told us that she is looking for meaningful volunteer work along with her other volunteer roles. She worked in South America for over twenty-five years.

Email: [bsbcs1@gmail.com](mailto:bsbcs1@gmail.com)

**Sophia Gomez Rubio, Greg Trevorrow, Franklin Lan, Amanda Schneider** (Kennett Rotaract) are looking for persons from 18-30 years old to sign-up to be volunteers with Rotaract.

Email Amanda at: [aschneider212@gmail.com](mailto:aschneider212@gmail.com)

**Michele Sullivan** (Underground Railroad) told us that they have saved two abolitionist buildings and one will become their Center. They are looking for volunteers to help with mailings, research and for board members. Email: [michele2baddog@gmail.com](mailto:michele2baddog@gmail.com)

**Harry Hammond** (Kendal) told us that he and some other residents are working on public transportation with the hope to bridge the gap from Centerville, Kennett Square and New

Garden. He is looking for partners and ideas of how to get this to happen. Email: [harryhammond@verizon.net](mailto:harryhammond@verizon.net)

**Neal Beresin** (Kendal Corporate) told us that this week is his twentieth year as a Kendal employee. He spoke about an inter-generational program that he is passionate about; Kendal residents attending class with Weidner University under-graduates. His goal is to grow this effort. Email: [nberesin@vitalize360.org](mailto:nberesin@vitalize360.org)

**Jan Clodius** (Kendal Activities Director) told us that she works with the personal and skilled care unit and always is looking for volunteers. She is also promoting intergenerational encounters and activities. Email: [jclodius@kal.kendal.org](mailto:jclodius@kal.kendal.org)

**Carol Krawczyk** (Judge of Elections) is looking for six poll workers on Election Day for shifts from 6am to 2pm and 2pm to 8pm. She also is looking for volunteers to do a sidewalk and tree inventory in the Borough of Kennett. They will take place on October 8<sup>th</sup> for the sidewalk inventory and October 22<sup>nd</sup> for the tree inventory. Email: [ckrawczyk@verizon.net](mailto:ckrawczyk@verizon.net)

**Jennifer McGonigle** (Willowdale Chapel) told us that she is organizing a Dress Gala before the February Tebow Foundation's Night to Shine for people with Special Needs, to help provide the girls/women with donated formal dresses. She hopes to collect five hundred dresses. She needs volunteers to pick up dresses at drop-off sites, storage space and a team to help organize and advertize the Dress Gala. She even could use a photographer and beverage and snack donations. Email: [jskittles11@gmail.com](mailto:jskittles11@gmail.com) (Phone: 484-888-3774)

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

**Kris Russomagno** (Community) told us about the Kennett Community Coffee Klatch which meets at The Market at Liberty Place every Thursday morning from 10:30am to 11:30am. It is a time to share stories and news inter-generationally. Come join us!  
Email: [kris.russomagno@gmail.com](mailto:kris.russomagno@gmail.com)

**Kathy Do** (After the Bell) told us that she needs volunteers for their session 9/27/16 to 11/3/16. This involves 2 hours a week for 6 weeks for either Tues., Weds. or Thurs. She needs an adult to serve as a bus aide on Tuesdays and Thursday. She also needs adult oversight for Outdoor Fun and Games on Thursday afternoons. Email: [executivedirector@afterthebell.org](mailto:executivedirector@afterthebell.org)

**Anne Humes** (Kendal) spoke on behalf of Together for Education. They need volunteers in the elementary schools to serve as tutors, especially for children in 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> grade, who do not have English-speaking parents. They need twice the number of sixty tutors that they had last year. A volunteer may sign-up to volunteer any day or time during the school day. Email Jennifer Lewis at: [jlewis@tfed.org](mailto:jlewis@tfed.org)

**Sheila Tekavec** (The Hadley Fund) is setting-up new programs for the fall. All of the arts and culture educational and enrichment events are provided by a legacy donor. The will have an Autumnal Equinox Outdoor Celebration at Stateline Woods Preserve on 9/24/16 at 2pm. La Comunidad Hispana with their 5 K run and walk will be a partner on 9/25/16 at Anson B Nixon Park with a Live Performance by El Mariachi Flores at 10am. Email: [thehadleyfund@gmail.com](mailto:thehadleyfund@gmail.com)

**Chris McDonald** (Friends Home) told us that she has two presentations to offer the community. On 10/6/16 at 6pm there will be a workshop for veterans and families to better understand benefits and services. On 10/20/16 at 4pm, Dr Ost will give a presentation on how to reverse memory loss. She also has a part-time position open for a dinner server from 4-7pm. For needs: she is looking for a volunteer Spanish teacher, who would teach her interested residents. She also needs volunteers to accompany seniors on bus trips. Email: [CMcDonald@fhkennett.org](mailto:CMcDonald@fhkennett.org)

**Kathy Hrenko** (Project Cure) told us that she is the Operations Manager for Project Cure. They are always looking for donated medical supplies to send to countries in need and also are recruiting volunteers and groups to provide support. Email: [Kathyhrenko@projectcure.org](mailto:Kathyhrenko@projectcure.org) and check out the web site at: [www.projectcure.org](http://www.projectcure.org)

**Liz Conner** (Kennett Area Senior Center) told us that the Center provides respite care for persons with mild dementia. On 10/13/16 at 10am, there will be a presentation on what the program provides. The Center is also lowering the price structure to make it affordable for most families. She also announced Living History sessions, which will start on 9/20/16 at 9:30am with Jan Michner; all community members invited to attend. There will be an indoor Garage Sale on 9/17/16 from 8am to 3pm. Email: [lconners@kennettseniorcenter.org](mailto:lconners@kennettseniorcenter.org)

**Jessie Cocks** (Community) told us about the MLK Advocates, who meet the first Thursday of the month from 5:30am to 7pm and will start meeting at La Comunidad Hispana. Community members invited. She also told us about the Kennett Area Democrats office at 119 E. Linden Street, which is currently promoting voter registration. They need volunteers. Call the office: 610-444-4433. She suggested we look up Camp Cadets for whom MLK Advocates provide scholarships; Email: [jessiecocks@verizon.net](mailto:jessiecocks@verizon.net)

**Karen D'Agusto** (Girl Scouts Service Manager) told us that she is putting the word out that Girl Scouts need meaningful community projects. The participants are 5-18 years old girls. They have two Christmas projects, when they collect toys for children of imprisoned and also provide gifts for two families in need. For the middle school girls--- a silver award requires 70 hours and a gold award requires 100 hours. They will have recruitment days at Mary D Lang on 9/3/16 from 6-7pm and at Unionville Elementary on 10/2016 from 6-7pm. Please email Karen with any suggestions for community projects at: [kdagusto@aol.com](mailto:kdagusto@aol.com)

**Peggy Brick** (Kendal Resident) told us about the Southern Poverty Law Center. She had copies of a report that spoke about how children are experiencing racism and bullying in schools and

live in fear. On 9/20/16 at 7:15pm at Kendal a committee is meeting with a social worker from one of the schools and LCH to determine if there is anything that the community can do to prevent this issue. Email: [peggybrick@verizon.net](mailto:peggybrick@verizon.net)

**Mary Pat Knauss** (Wings for Success) encourages attendees to participate in the Annual Silent Auction and Wine Grab on 12/06/16 from 6-8pm at White Manor Country Club, 831 Providence Rd., Malvern, PA. Email: [mary.pat.Knauss@gmail.com](mailto:mary.pat.Knauss@gmail.com)

**Milena Lanz** (Home of the Sparrow) told us about a free Annual Women's Wellness Workshop to be held on 10/04/16 at Covenant Presbyterian Church, 400 Lancaster Ave., Malvern, PA from 10am to 1pm. To register: <http://Bit.ly/2bXAsxq>. Also, Milena would like the community to know about the ACEs Coalition---Adverse Childhood Experiences and there will be another upcoming meeting for anyone interested in joining this county-wide effort. Email: [mlanz@homeofthesparrow.org](mailto:mlanz@homeofthesparrow.org)

**Linda Theis** (Kennett Business) is looking for volunteers to help with the Halloween Parade and the haunted House on 10/30/16. Please email: [ksjlinda2@gmail.com](mailto:ksjlinda2@gmail.com)

**Angela Nave** (Child and Family Focus) told us that she is looking for a part-time Family support partner and a Part-Time Youth Support Partner. Check out the web site at: [www.childandfamilyfocus.org](http://www.childandfamilyfocus.org). Email: [anave@childandfamilyfocus.org](mailto:anave@childandfamilyfocus.org)

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

- Carol Krawczyk, in full amazement, "bridged" with six persons, who will help at the polls.
- Terry Stinson "bridged" with Malena Lanz from Home of the Sparrow and she hopes to partner and receive pointers from a long-standing agency, who provides transitional housing for women.
- Kris Russomagno "bridged" with Karen D'Agusto around the Girl Scouts taking on collecting items for backpacks for the newly released prisoners and to work on a sustainable process that keeps the project going.
- Sheila Tekavec "bridged" with Home of the Sparrow and many attendees with her flyer for Hadley free autumn performances.
- Kathy Do "bridged" with Sophia Gomez Rubio about volunteers for a photographer and other volunteer opportunities.
- Anne Humes "bridged" with two people, who are interested in helping with Together for Education and with Karen D'Agusto around having the Skilled Care Kendal residents helping the Girl Scouts with wrapping Christmas gifts for their project.
- Joan Holliday "bridged" with Barb Smith, who is interested in volunteering for YoungMOM's, and she speaks fluent Spanish.
- Marina Haley "bridged" with Chris McDonald about a job at Friends Home and with Sophia Gomez Rubio about becoming a Rotaract member.
- Jen McGonigle "bridged" with several persons, who will help with the Dress Gala and received several offers for donated formal women's wear.



***Bridging the Community*** was held on Wednesday, November 09, 2016 at 7pm at Pathstone, 421 McFarland Rd., Kennett Square, PA 19348. Twenty-four community-minded residents attended the 110<sup>th</sup> Bridging meeting/gathering, the evening after being up in the wee hours of the morning, waiting for the news of the election of the US President.

**The next meeting will be held on Wednesday, January 11, 2017 at Kennett Presbyterian Church, 211 S. Broad St., Kennett Square, PA 19348. (in basement room)**

Minutes of *Bridging* meetings are posted on the web site: [www.bridgingcommunity.com](http://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** led us in a moment of silence. Asking us to reflect on how to come together in peace and make Kennett Square a better place to live and work. Email: [daveharadon@gmail.com](mailto:daveharadon@gmail.com)

**Janet Cordova and Daniel Zavala (Pathstone)** told us about the site where we were meeting and the employment services provided for the agricultural workers. They also provide training for mechanics, nursing assistant and commercial driver's license. Email: [jcordova@pathstone.org](mailto:jcordova@pathstone.org) and [dzavala@pathstone.org](mailto:dzavala@pathstone.org)

**Claudia Turner** told us about the daycare/pre-school services, provided at this site that they provide for migrant farm families from April through March. Children are from age 6 weeks to 6 years. Pathstone received a grant for Pre-K for 3-5 years old---open from September thru June to Kennett area families, paying on a sliding fee scale. Email: [cturner@pathstone.org](mailto:cturner@pathstone.org)

**Joan Holliday** shared the Framework and **Jeanne Searer** shared the Guiding Principles. Email: [dochollisv@aol.com](mailto:dochollisv@aol.com) and [jeannecrew491@hotmail.com](mailto:jeannecrew491@hotmail.com)

**Dave Haradon** co-facilitated the Bridging meeting with **Jeanne Searer**.

**The overall context is our living philosophy, reflected by our land's energy/spirit - peaceful, progressive, inclusivity.** "Bridging" promotes this living philosophy.

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

**New Attendees introduced themselves:**

**Nettie Wolfe Silva (Open Hearth)** told us that they are a county-wide agency that provides emergency housing and financial support for persons, who have an addiction problem and are in treatment or on parole. Email: [nsilva@openhearthisc.org](mailto:nsilva@openhearthisc.org)

**Ann Marie Barr** (Open Hearth) told us that she is a Mobile Workforce Navigator to help persons connect with Career Link and develop a job gateway. She is at Kennett Library on Mondays and Fridays from 9am to noon and KACS from 1pm-4:30pm. Email: [abarr@openhearthisc.org](mailto:abarr@openhearthisc.org)

**Natalie Coqueron and Angelica** (Child and Family Focus Inc., 503 N. Walnut Rd Suite 335, Kennett Square) told us that they are a non-profit behavioral health agency. They provide respite care for families with children (12 hours/week), who have a mental health diagnosis. They are looking for employees, who would provide this respite care to clients 3-21 years old---adult and a youth, who have a “story” of dealing with similar situations. The applicants need to be at least 18 years old, a high school graduate and connected with a “helping” field. Bi-lingual needed too. House are flexible. See: [www.childandfamilyfocus.org](http://www.childandfamilyfocus.org)  
Email: [ncoqueron@childandfamilyfocus.org](mailto:ncoqueron@childandfamilyfocus.org)

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

**Terry and Elizabeth Stinson** (The Oaks Ministry, 290 Bethel Rd, Oxford, PA 19363) told us about their transitional housing and Christian-based support services for women who would be actively working towards financial stability and other related activities. They will be graduating their first participants after one year in February. They are looking for housing and would like referrals. They now have two houses. They have a Christmas Bazaar to raise funds for the ministry on 12/3/16 from 5pm-9pm and 12/4/16 from 9am-3pm. [www.oxfordoaksministry.com](http://www.oxfordoaksministry.com);  
Email: [terristinson@comcast.net](mailto:terristinson@comcast.net) or [elizabeth.stinson@verizon.net](mailto:elizabeth.stinson@verizon.net)

**Bob George** (Community) told us that he and Joan Holliday are nearly finished their book, “The Story of Kennett---“Get the Kids Right.” They have interviewed the youth programs in our community and are showcasing how the town focus on the kids and work on keeping Kennett a safe and healthy place to raise a child. Book will be available over the holidays. Kris Russomagno is the publisher. Email: [georgert@gmail.com](mailto:georgert@gmail.com)

**Cathy Brison** (Kennett YMCA and MLK CommUNITY breakfast) told us that they YMCA is collecting Thanksgiving food. You may take a leaf off a tree and donate the designated item. YMCA also has an Angel Tree, which provides toys for Christmas. The MLK CommUNITY breakfast will be held on 01/16/16 from 8am to 10am. The Speaker is Mildred “Mit” Joyner, Emeritus Director and Professor, West Chester University, the theme of the breakfast: Unity and Working Together for Social Change. Tickets will be available on the following web site: [www.mlkcommunity.org](http://www.mlkcommunity.org)

**Pam Carter** (Community) told us that the food drive that usually is held in January with the MLK CommUNITY breakfast will take place in the spring. They will promote Change for Change and be collecting coins at different sites around town. Email: [pamelahcarter@comcast.net](mailto:pamelahcarter@comcast.net)

**Chris McDonald** (Friends Home) told us that she met Marina Haley at the last Bridging meeting and has hired her at Friends Home. She also told us that they are offering an open invitation to neighbors 60 years and over to dine on Sat. & Sun. Dinner \$8 (12:30pm, the larger meal) and Monday thru Friday Supper \$6. (Call 24 hours in advance.) They also are developing a "Learning Center" organized by a dedicated volunteer, who will provide opportunities for seniors to share their talents with youth. She also needs volunteers to accompany seniors on bus trips. Email: [CMcDonald@fhkennett.org](mailto:CMcDonald@fhkennett.org)

**Sylvia Barreiro Thomas** (Willowdale Chapel) told us that her daughter, Jennifer is organizing a Dress Gala before the February Tebow Foundation's Night to Shine for people with Special Needs, to help provide the girls/women with donated formal dresses. She hopes to collect five hundred dresses. Drop off dresses at Salon Secrets, Willowdale Chapel, and Kennett High School. Email: Jennifer: [jskittles11@gmail.com](mailto:jskittles11@gmail.com) (Phone: 484-888-3774) or Sylvia at: [Syltkpres@gmail.com](mailto:Syltkpres@gmail.com)

**Janet Zeis** (CC Emergency Management) told us about National Hunger and Homelessness Week. Check out the web site to see the events of the week: [www.hfa365.org](http://www.hfa365.org)." Kick-off is 11/15/16 from 5:30pm to 7pm at the Graduate Center, 1160 McDermott Dr., West Chester, PA. RSVP on the web site. Theme of this sixth year in Chester County is: "Housing & Food for ALL 365." Check out the events on the web site. [jzeis@chesco.org](mailto:jzeis@chesco.org)

**Janet Zeis** also told us about the ACEs effort in Chester County, which focuses on childhood experiences, both positive and negative that have a tremendous impact on future violence victimization and perpetration, and lifelong health and opportunity. As such, early experiences are an important public health issue. Much of the foundational research in this area has been referred to as Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs) See below for contact.

**Wendy Myers** (WCU Intern) told us that she is also working with the ACEs effort and is mapping services that are addressing this issue through their interview process and treatment. She would like to know about agencies in our area. Home of the Sparrow is spearheading this effort. Email: [cbuckley@homeofthesparrow.org](mailto:cbuckley@homeofthesparrow.org) and [wendymyers0608@gmail.com](mailto:wendymyers0608@gmail.com).

**Holly Poole** (CCHD Public Health Nurse) told us that she is involved in the Nurse Family Partnership services, which provides preventive care home visits to at-risk first-time mothers (ages teen to 24 years old) and for the child until two years. She takes referrals and works with other agencies that provide services for young moms. She attends these meetings to find out about the services and events in town, so she can share them with her clients. Email: [hpoole@chesco.org](mailto:hpoole@chesco.org)

**Jeanne Searer** (Community) told us that the Day of the Dead (Dia de los muertos) celebration on 11/05/16 at the American Legion had nearly 1,000 attendees. She needs veteran photos and names for next year, as she is in charge of the altar that honors those who served our country in the military.

On 12/11/16 at 4pm Church of the Advent will hold their 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Messiah Sing. Free-will offering for Family Promise. Everyone can join in singing the chorus.

On 11/20/16 there will be a Thanksgiving Community Service at Church of the Advent at 7pm. Kennett Community choir will be singing. (Also, the choir is open to new members.)

Email: [jeannecrew491@hotmail.com](mailto:jeannecrew491@hotmail.com)

**Anne Humes** (Kendal) spoke on behalf of Together for Education. They need volunteers in the elementary schools to serve as tutors, especially for children in 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> grade, who do not have English-speaking parents. They need twice the number of sixty tutors that they had last year. A volunteer may sign-up to volunteer any day or time during the school day. Email

Jennifer Lewis at: [jlewis@tfed.org](mailto:jlewis@tfed.org)

**Dan Cornett** (Church of the Open Door) told us about the web site that the MLK Advocates have developed that community groups may post social justice events for the community. Currently the MLK Advocates announce their meetings, ISMS from Church of the Open Door, and Conversations on Race are posted. The next one post will be for sessions provided for parents, who want to learn how to talk to their children about “fear.” Check out the web site at: [www.MLKAdvocates.org](http://www.MLKAdvocates.org)

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

**Dan Cornett** “bridged” with **Janet Zeis** about information resources for addressing “How to talk to your kids in the culture of fear.” Terri and Elizabeth Stinson “bridged” with Janet Cordova around the trainings and employment services for their ministry. They also “bridged” with Friends Home about a job position for one of their clients. They “bridged” with Nettie Wolfe Silva around possible donated cars and housing for clients. They “bridged” with Ann Marie Barr around Career Link for their clients. And, Elizabeth “bridged” with David Haradon around providing information about how they secured their two homes for their ministry. Chris McDonald (Friends Home) told us that she “bridged” with Anne Humes and Harry Hammond about being a speaker at Friends Meeting. She “bridged” with Pathstone about their CAN graduates and job opportunities at Friends Home. She “bridged” with Terri Stinson about job opportunities at Friends for women in The Oaks Ministry.

**Sylvia Barreiro Thomas** “bridged” with **Elizabeth Stinson** to pick up prom dresses at KHS.

**Cathy Brison** “bridged” with **Anne Humes** around the MLK CommUNITY breakfast tickets.

**Claudia Turner** “bridged” with **Natalie Coqueron** about providing Pathstone’s teachers the information about job opportunities with Child and Family Focus.

**Janet Cordova** “bridged” with several attendees around the services that Pathstone provides and also with **David Haradon** about joining Rotaract.

**Daniel Zavala** “bridged” with **David Haradon** and told him that his wife is expecting a child to be born any day.

**Joan Holliday** “bridged” with **Anne Humes, Harry Hammon** and **Pam Carter** to talk about possibilities of Kendal residents and youth joining together around nature and ecology in the Anson B Nixon Park.

**Anne Humes** “bridged” with **Pam Carter** and Angela around becoming involved in Together for Education as mentors/tutors for elementary school children.

**Wendy Myers** “bridged” with **Angela Nave** from Home of the Sparrow, **Holly Poole** from CCHD and **Joan Holliday** from YoungMoms, about ACEs mapping.

**Esther Rochester** “bridged” with **Holly Poole** around memories of a CCHD Health Fair that Esther participated in years ago.