

Minutes from 2017 Meetings

January 11, 2017

March 8, 2017

May 10, 2017

July 12, 2017

September 13, 2017

November 8, 2017

Bridging the Community was held on Wednesday, January 11, 2017 at 7pm at Kennett Presbyterian Church, 211 S. Broad St., Kennett Square, PA 19348. Thirty-eight heart-felt community members attended the 111th Bridging meeting/gathering on a rainy winter eve.

The next meeting will be held on Wednesday, March 08, 2017 at Episcopal Church of the Advent, 401 N Union St., Kennett Square, PA 19348 at 7pm.

Minutes of *Bridging* meetings are posted on the web site: www.bridgingcommunity.com or there is a copy of the minutes at the Kennett Library. *Bridging the Community* meetings are held at different sites every time---to provide exposure to all segments of the community. There is a temporary lapse due to being hacked.

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

Jay Malthaner (member of Kennett Presbyterian Church) led us in a prayer. He told us that the Gilmore Room where we were meeting was named after their first pastor, who started in 1867 after the church was built in 1864. The building burned down in the early 1900's and the current building was erected. There are many community groups that have meetings in this room. KPC c is a host church for Family Promise. Email: jmalthaner@aol.com

Dave Haradon co-facilitated the Bridging meeting with **Jeanne Searer**. He promoted the Mushroom Drop and learned where others spent New Year's eve.

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

New Attendees introduced themselves:

Javiar (Cecilia Arce's husband) told us that he has moved to this area from Wyoming. He teaches chemistry at Esperanza College in N.E. Philadelphia part-time. He is looking for part-time work in the area in teaching, engineering or other. Email: carce@ccmchc.org

Cecilia Arce (Maternal Child Health Consortium) told us that she moved back to the area with her husband, Javiar and has recently started to work in the MCHC Family Benefits program. She was in attendance with other MCHC employees. Email: carce@ccmchc.org

Carol Vidal (MCHMC) told us that she is a Health Navigator, who provides assistance with applying for medical assistance, CHIP, food stamps and other benefits.

In Kennett call: 610-612-4028. Email: cvidal@ccmchc.org

Lizbeth (MCHMC Family Center) told us that she would like to recruit volunteers for the kindergarten readiness camp, which is four weeks in June. Volunteers would be needed Tuesdays and Thursdays from 12:00pm to 4:30pm. Email: mrivera@ccmchc.org

Linda Elsdon (Kennett Shop) told us that she owned a shop in town called The Orange Door, 131 E. State St., Kennett Square, PA. She has beautiful and unique hand chosen items, which can be given to all the special people in one's life. Email: lew357100@gmail.com

Julianna Blazey (Longwood Rotary) came to experience a Bridging meeting.
Email: blazyjb7450@gmail.com

Madison Beehler (Community) told us that she works for a non-profit in Boston called The Food Project, *Youth, Food and Community* for six months out of the year. She would like to "bridge" with community members to explore ways to bring this type of effort to Southern Chester County. Email: mgbeehler@aol.com

Renee Bowers (Community) told us that she moved to Kennett four years ago and has always planned to come to a Bridging meeting and tonight she made it. She works for Fair Trade Federations International. She has a dream of providing job training for the under-served in our community. Email: reneebowers@hotmail.com

Barbara Disabatino (Newcomer's Club) told us that she is a member of the Kennett Square Newcomer's Club, which provides social and community service. She was attending the meeting to learn of ways the club could help the community. Email: bdisab@gmail.com

Beatriz Costano (State Farm Insurance) told us that she was attending the meeting to get the word out about insurance services. Email: beatrizc90@yahoo.com

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

Mikey Glass (Director of The Kennett Garage) told us that students will participate in Give-Back Day on 4/29/17 and are looking for volunteer projects in the broader community. She also had applications for businesses and work places that would provide students with a work experience this summer, that would help develop their life, professional, and work skills. (The Garage pays the youth a salary, while they work and training.) Contact Mikey.

Email michael.glass@garageyouthcenter.org

Kathy Do (After the Bell ED) told us that on 1/24/17 they are starting another after-school, six-week cycle for middle school students and needs volunteers for Tuesday to go with students to Cross Fit; Tuesdays to go with students to Artist Technical College HS; Wednesdays to go with students to Paint for Fun, and Thursdays, assisting at the middle school with "Fun & Games."

She also told us about the After the Bell fundraiser *Guest Bartender Night*, to be held at Kennett Brewing Company from 6-9pm on 1/18/17. Come enjoy a meal and tip the bartenders, who are competing for donations. Email: executivedirector@afterthebell.org

Joe Birmingham (Phoenix Press) told us that they publish books. He recommended reading a fantasy novel, "The Power Within" written by 14year old, Sonia Kloss from Avon grove HS. He also is planning the second Landenberg Day on 8/5/17. They had over 1,200 people attend last year and he is looking for volunteers and vendors for this year. Email: PhoenixPress1@gmail.com & personal email is: josephobirmingham@gmail.com

Pam Eppinger (Phoenix Press) told us that she can make contact with a person who is willing to take donated electronic equipment (TVs, cell phones, printers etc.) and he restores them for students, who do not have these items. Contact Pam for pick-up. Email: PhoenixPress2@gmail.com

Janet Zeis (CC Emergency Management) told us that Chester County will be enrolled in Smart911. Medical information can be stored and accessed in the case of an emergency on one's cell phone or land line. Learn more, and sign-up using the following web site: <https://www.smart911.com/> She also spoke about the high incidence of house fires during the cold months and you may contact her about smoke detectors for those in need. Finally, she is looking for registrants for a Red Cross disaster training that will be given on 1/28/17. Email: jzeis@chesco.org

Lorenzo Merino (DNB First Bank) told us that he brought his five-year old son, David to the meeting because David had a bag of toys that he wanted to contribute to children who do not have many toys. Email: lmerino@dnbfirst.com

Cathy Brison (MLK Advocates) told us that 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, with the theme of the breakfast: *Unity and Working Together for Social Change*. A few tickets still may be available on the following web site: www.mlkcommunity.org. Email: Cabrisonmm@aol.com

Ted Trevorrow (La Comunidad Hispana) told us about the new LCH dental clinic that has opened at 404 McFarland Rd. Suite 302A. They take Medicaid, Medicare and insurance. Call: 610-444-7550. Email: edt750@verizon.net

Jeanne Searer (Community) told us that Casa Guanajuato will hold their fourth Annual Dinner Dance on 2/18/17 from 7:00pm to 11:00pm. Tickets are \$55. Also Cinco de May will be the first Sunday in May and there will be an established rain date. She also knows of a six-year old baby grand piano that is for sale; best offer wins. Contact Jeanne: jeannecrew491@hotmail.com

Tina Butcher (His Mission Homeless Shelter, 342 E. Birch St., Kennett Square) His Mission currently provides shelter, food, clothing and mentoring for the homeless single male. They

have been providing help to the homeless for the past thirty-two years. They are always in need of donations, food and clothing contributions. Phone: 610-444-2559; tamikabutcher@yahoo.com

Sheila Tekavec (Hadley Memorial Fund) told us about the free enrichment events that are offered to the community through this fund. The next program is "Love Letters" presented by People's Light at Jenner's Pond Retirement Community on 2/27/17 at 2pm. On 4/01/17 at 7pm at West Grove Friends Meeting there will be Organ Music with Jake Armerding.
Email: sheilartekavec@gmail.com

Kris Smith (Community) told us that she now works in Chester, PA selling floor mats and mat cleaning services. She also is looking for ways to encourage her 23 year-old daughter to become employed. She appreciates Kennett and the area and how much it has to offer.
Email: artwaves@hotmail.com

Beverly Bach (Carter CDC Study Buddies) told us that she helps with after-school tutoring to K-5th grades at Study Buddies on East Linden Street. She invited other volunteers to join her.
Email: beverlyb123@verizon.net

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 ages 6 weeks to 6 years. Path stone 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

She also told us about the employment services provided for the agricultural workers with training for mechanics, nursing assistant and commercial driver's license.
Email: jcordova@pathstone.org or dzavala@pathstone.org

Joan Holliday (Community) gave out two Path of Potential books to attendees, who recalled the living philosophy and one of our principles. She also announces that The Story of Kennett: Shaping our Future One Child at a Time by Joan Holliday and Bob George is targeted to be out by the end of the month. Email: dochollisv@aol.com

Terry and Elizabeth Stinson (The Oaks Ministry, 290 Bethel Rd, Oxford, PA 19363) attended and previously 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.
www.oxfordoaksministry.com; Email: terristinson@comcast.net or elizabeth.stinson@verizon.net

Linda Theis (Kennett Jewelers) told us that there will be Art on the Square from April 27-30. She promotes the youth getting involved in art and recruited seven schools to participate last year. She needs volunteers to help at the American Legion during the times of the art exhibits. There will be an Art Street Fair on 4/29/17. Email: kslinda2@gmail.com

Liz Conner (Kennett Area Senior Center) told us that the Center provides respite care for persons with mild dementia. She also told us that ServSafe Management Training for food safety will be held on 2/11/17 and 4/15/17. Call 610-444-4819 or email: djenkins@kennettseiorcenter.org Also, the Family and Community meeting on Friday 2/3/17 will be about 'Resources for Non Profits. Contact Liz at: LConners@kennettseiorsenter.org

Kim Engstrom, MS Counseling, 312 W. State St., Suite 206, Kennett Square; Phone 484-558-0311. Email: KE.Counselingservices@gmail.com She provides counseling for individuals and/or families in transition. She also provides workshops on change and transition. She has walk-in hours. Contact her about walk-in hours to meet and determine right services for you.

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 or cshelly@arcofchestercounty.org

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

- Kathy Do “bridged” with Javier, who will volunteer tutoring math at After the Bell.
- Dave Haradon “bridged” with Kris Smith and will visit her business selling floor mats in Chester, PA.
- Lizbeth (Family Center) “bridged” with Pam Eppinger about donating old electronic equipment.
- Liz Conners “bridged” with Beverly Bach about donating children’s books to Study Buddies and Beverly offered to donate two “walker” carry bags for seniors.
- Janet Zeis “bridged” with Terry and Elizabeth Stinson and Janis Reynolds, who will sign-up for the Disaster training.
- Kris Smith “bridged” with Kim Engstrom about her services and Joan Holliday about donating two rugs to Migrant Ministries---610-444-0387
- Renee Bowers “bridged” with Dave Haradon about the Longwood Rotary.
- Cecilia Arce “bridged” with Beatriz Constano about her State Farm insurance services for clients and with Linda Elsdon about her store.
- Joe Birmingham “bridged” with Linda Theis and the two of them are going to partner around each other’s fair events.
- Claudia “bridged” with David Merino about the donated toys and bringing them to the Path stone pre-school site.
- Madison Beehler and Renee Bowers “bridged” around their dream ideas.
- Esther Rochester “bridged” with Vicky Malthaner, a previous teacher.
- Joan Holliday “bridged” with Ted Trevarrow and Cecilia Arce with their brochures.
- Joan Holliday (for Mikey Glass) handed out applications for the summer work program.

Bridging the Community was held on Wednesday, March 08, 2017 at 7pm at Kennett Presbyterian Church, 211 S. Broad St., Kennett Square, PA 19348. Forty-nine lively community members attended the 112th Bridging meeting/gathering on an unseasonably warm evening.

The next meeting will be held on Wednesday, May 10, 2017 at Kennett High School, 100 E. South St., Kennett Square, PA 19348 at 7pm.

Minutes of *Bridging* meetings are posted on the NEW web site:

www.bridgingthecommunity.wordpress.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. There is a temporary lapse due to being hacked.

Joan Holliday shared the Framework and **Jeanne Searer** shared the Guiding Principles.

Email: dochollisv@aol.com and jeannecrew491@hotmail.com

The Reverend Nancy Hauser led us in a universal prayer. She told us the current church has been in existence since 1956. Their original home was where Church of the Open Door meets. Stained glass windows donated in the memory of Bayard Taylor and donations that came from famous poets and authors and friends were moved to the current site. They hold Sunday services at 7:45; 8:45 and 10am. Email: advent-secretary@comcast.net

Dave Haradon co-facilitated the Bridging meeting with **Jeanne Searer**. He invited everyone to talk to the “neighbor” for a minute, then took a panoramic video of the group.

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

New Attendees introduced themselves:

Michelle Maloney (CC Women 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. Email: michelle@ccwsmedical.org

The Rev Nancy Hauser told us that she is from Upper State New York. She has four children, three of them who are out of college and involved in meaningful work and are gainfully employed and the last child is still in college.

Jose Zavala (MCHC/Family Center) told us that he leads the Fatherhood Initiative at the Family Center, 637 Millers Hill Rd, Kennett Square, PA for the past five years. The Center also helps young parents educate their children and prepare them for kindergarten.
Email: jzavala@ccmchc.org

Fran Maye (Editor of The Daily Local and The Kennett Paper) told us that he was on a night off and was accompanying his wife to the meeting to support her announcements.
Email: kennettpaper@gmail.com

Mary Ann Maye (Community) told us that she is representing Tick Tock Early Learning Center, as she was previously Board President. She said with today being “International Women’s Day” she’d like to recognize the four women, who fifty years ago understood the need for affordable child care, which started with one classroom and now has eight classrooms with ninety children at this Center. They are holding a Wine Tasting Tour fundraiser on 04/01/17 from 1-6pm. For more information: www.ticktocktastingtour@event.splashthat.com Tick Tock is also starting a capital campaign to upgrade the kitchen and add some space for more children.
Email: mariannemaye@gmail.com

Pat Ward (Retired ChaddsFord Elementary Teacher) came because she was invited by Laura Gonzalez and to learn more about the community. Email: YDRAW@aol.com

Diane Beeson (Retired ChaddsFord Elementary Teacher) came to see how she can be helpful to the community. Email: jackdianeb@aol.com

Carin Bonifacino (Community) told us that she is known as the founder of the New Garden Grower’s Market, 8943 Newport Pike, Avondale, PA twelve years ago. She is a life-long resident of Kennett. Email: summersun33@verizon.net

Hollis Townsend (Community) told us that he is on the Vestry at The Episcopal Church of the Advent and came to see what was happening in the community.
Email: advent-secretary@comcast.net

Dawn Doherty Kohl (After the Bell) told us that she is the new Program Director and that they just celebrated their 5,000 student participant in their enrichment after-school program. They always need volunteers. The commitment can be as little as one hour a week. Do you have a talent/hobby you would like to share with middle school youth? Email: afterthebell@kcsd.org

Stephanie Bernasconi (Education Coordinator for Brandywine Red Clay Alliance) told us that they have many events that community can volunteer for the Red Clay River clean-up on 03/25/17. They need 700 volunteers. They also could help clean-up the property on 4/2/17 for

Point to Point. They have summer camp scholarships available. Email: sbernasconi@brandywineredclay.org or contact@brandwineredclay.org

Betty Warner (Kendal Communities) told us that they now have 45 tutors for ESL students, who come to Kendal for their classes. Relationships are being built and a community need is being met. They also have worked with After the Bell helping students with art and ceramics. Kendal wants to stay engaged with the broader community. Email: bettywarn@aol.com

Suzanne Davidson (London Grove Meeting) told us that they have an outreach to the community called London Grove Cares and they set-up food drives other services. They are always interested in hearing of needs. Contact Georgia Delaney at: pugmother@aol.com

Kevin McLean (Family Promise) told us that he is Board President of Family Promise and they are looking for six new board members and also committee members. He explained that homeless families are housed at 13 host churches with the help of 14 Support churches at night and families stay at the new Resource Center, 1156 Baltimore Pk, Kennett Square during the day. In the past year, 25 adults and 44 children, ranging in age from 7 months to 17 years, have been aided by services provided by the organization. Email: mclean.kevind@gmail.com

Ashleigh Baldwin (SE Planned Parenthood) told us that they provide services for women in West Chester and Coatesville and they also want to support women in SCC. Email: Ashleigh.baldwin@ppsp.org

Aimee Bowers (Community) has started a Kennett Square Axillary Rotary Club. They have between 8-10 members and are looking for service projects for one day a month. They meet at Two Stones Pub, 843 E. Baltimore Pk, Kennett Square, PA on Sunday at 11am and you are welcome to join them. Email: abowers@clarionlaw.net

Megan Bushnell (Indivisible KSQ) told us that she lives in the Kennett Borough with her husband and two children. She told us that she has started organizing local meetings to resist the Trump agenda. Over one-hundred plus residents have recently joined the meetings. She is looking for a larger meeting place. On March 15th there will be a postcard campaign, with individuals sending postcards to the White House to tell Trump how he/she feels about his agenda. If you would like to be on her email list: meganbushnell@gmail.com

Alan Somers (Community) told us that he has lived in the locations from DE to PA that trace Harriett Tubman's life. He has had a diverse history of talents and jobs. He was invited to the meeting by Laura Gonzalez and is always ready to help the community. Email: avsomers@aol.com

Rosemary Malatesta (Community) told us that she lived in Kennett Square for many years and always appreciated the caring community. She prayed each night for the people and officials of the town. She moved away four years ago and now is introducing a new community member, Roberta Little to Bridging.

Roberta Little (Community) told us that she is trying to see where to get involved in the community. She partners with Estelle from Mala Galleria. On March 18th, they are launching a movement of gratitude in HKS. This project will continue throughout the year and beyond. They are encouraging all business owners and service providers to participate in "Thank You Project Kennett Square." The hope is that it will expand to schools, churches and residents. The process consists of spelling "Thank You" with interesting objects or products; take a photo and post on social media. Share and tag your photo with Thank You Project on Facebook www.facebook.com/pg/rlittleart/posts/ Post once or often. Let's prove gratitude mushrooms in our community. Email: robertalittleart@gmail.com

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

Karen D'Agusto (Girl Scouts Service Manager) told us that Girl Scouts need meaningful community projects and requests may be sent to Karen. The participants are 5-18 years old girls and they have about 50 troops in Unionville/Kennett School District. They currently have a project of sending 5,000 boxes of Girl Scout cookies to military personnel, who are stationed overseas. They would like the address of those military personnel who have local ties. They also are looking for donations to cover costs of mailing. They have a long list of ways they have helped the community from projects that came out of Bridging. Email: kdagusto@aol.com

She also has a petition to sign for East Marlborough residents to sign to stop gerrymandering, which will be present to the East Marlborough Township.

Wendy Myers (WCU Intern) told us that she is has an intern ship with Home of the Sparrow, a non-profit that helps single mothers out of homelessness. She also announced a Single Mothers' Conference & Expo on 4/22/17 from 10am to 4pm at Henderson High School, 400 Montgomery Ave, West Chester. It is free. To register. www.chescobloom2017.eventbrite.com or email: singlemothersconference@gmail.com. She also is working with the ACES Coalition(Adverse Childhood Experiences) 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. Please go to <http://www.ccacescoalition.com> and answer the survey. Home of the Sparrow is spearheading this effort. Email: cbuckley@homeofthesparrow.org
Wendy's Email: wendymyers0608@gmail.com

Cathy Brison (MLK) told us that there will be a food drive for KACS from 3/20-31/17. Individuals or groups are encouraged to get organized and participate. Food may be dropped off on at KACs, 136 W. Cedar St., Kennett Square M-F-9am to 5pm. 3/31/17 3-6pm and 4/1/17 8am to noon. Please donate healthy foods---tuna, peanut butter, rice, dried beans are most appreciated. There will be a "Sistas Tea about HIV" on 3/11/17 at Church of the Open Door, 211 S. Broad St., Kennett Square from 2-4pm. Cost is \$10.00. Email: hub-of-hope@umcod.org

Kim Engstrom, MS Counseling, 312 W. State St., Suite 206, Kennett Square; Phone 484-558-0311. Kim told us that she has been a counselor for twenty years. She provides counseling for individuals and/or families in transition. She also provides workshops on change and transition. She has walk-in hours. Contact her about walk-in hours to meet and determine right services for

you. She also is offering a class on Return to the Work Force through Delaware Community College starting 3/21/17. Email: KE.Counselingservices@gmail.com

Jessie Cocks (Community) told us about the Rainbow concert in Wilmington, DE on 3/24/17 at 7:30pm. Tickets available at www.TheRaibowChorale.org; 2) Tret Fure will be performing at The Flash on 4/29/17 and Jessie encourages everyone to support this singer, songwriter. 3) Dr. Ayo Maria Gooden is scheduled to present on “**How to Talk with Your Children About Race**” on **Wed., May 3rd, 7pm** at the Kennett Friend Meeting House (KFMH); the format for a 20-30 minute presentation, followed by discussions, questions, and perhaps with a panel of parents of multi-ethnic children (*collaborations & additional input to the development of this event are continuing*). We are also seeking to have Spanish translators as part of the event. May 17th, also at the KFMH, has been scheduled for one of what we hope will be several follow-up sessions to allow parents to get back together to discuss “how things are going” in having conversations with their children. The May 17th follow-up session will have snacks/hospitality items. Email: jessiecocks@verizon.net

Linda Theis (Kennett Jewelers) told us that there will be Art on the Square from April 28-30. She promotes the youth getting involved in art and recruited seven schools to participate last year. There will be an Art Street Fair on 4/29/17. Volunteers needed. Email: kslinda2@gmail.com

Karen Martin (Kennett Resale Book Shoppe) invited everyone to visit the book shop, 113 S. Union St., Kennett. She told us that the Kennett Area Senior Center is having a Photo Context 4/15-5/31/17. “Ageless and Active,” “Sharing Life Experiences throughout the Years.” Show us how you see contributing seniors involved in our community and their value. Contact: 610-444-6069 or email: kacsbooks@kennettseiorcenter.org

Pam Eppinger (Unionville Fair) 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. She also told us that Joe Birmingham is writing a book about Landenberg’s history and it will be available soon. Contact: PhoenixPress2@gmail.com

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 and check out the web site at: www.projectcure.org

Jeanne Searer (Community) told us that Casa Guanajuato will hold Cinco de May on Sunday, May 7th. She emphasized that this event is for ALL community members and beyond. It is all inclusive and a way to celebrate the Mexican culture. They are looking for more vendors. Contact Jeanne: jeannecrew491@hotmail.com

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 ages 6 weeks to 6 years. Path stone 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. They need new or used clothing

donations for children under 6 years. The definition of the term “agricultural industry” has been greatly expanded. It now includes categories and jobs that will increase the number of families that are eligible to enroll in the program. Email: cturner@pathstone.org

Joan Holliday (Community) told us that The Story of Kennett: Shaping our Future One Child at a Time by Joan Holliday and Bob George is available for sale. She has copies tonight and it is available on Amazon for \$14.99, 20% off 10 copies or more. (She encourages reviews to be written on Amazon.) Sale proceeds will go for scholarships to KHS students through The Kennett Education Foundation. She is MOST appreciative to her partner Bob George and their publisher and editor, Kris Russomagno.

She also told us that Sheila Tekavec has created a new *Bridging the Community* web site for posting minutes. The address is: www.bridgingthecommunity.wordpress.com Joan’s Email: dochollisv@aol.com

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

- Sheila Tekavec “bridged” with Megan Bushnell about a group associated with Chester County Community Foundation. She also passed out brochures about the upcoming Hadley Fund free event on April 1st at 7pm at West Grove Friends Meeting with Organ Music with Jake Armerding.
- Michelle Maloney “bridged” with several agencies and persons about CC Women Services.
- Diane Beeson “bridged” with Claudia Turner about donating baby clothes and will provide military service addresses for the Girl Scout Troops cookie donations.
- Karen D’Agusto “bridged” with Claudia Turner about providing children clothing to Migrant Head Start; “bridged” with Karen Martin about the photo context and “bridged” Aimee Bowers about military service addresses.
- Al Somers “bridged” with Laura Gonzalez about Cinco de Mayo. He also encouraged us to remember and support the Islamic Center, 1001 Pottstown Pk, West Chester, PA.
- Kevin McClean “bridged” with several persons—Janet Zeis and Karen Martin about identifying Family Promise Board members.
- Kathy Hrenko “bridged” with Hollis Townsend and Julianna Blazey about Project Cure
- Cathy Brison gave out many flyers about food drive and also “bridged” with Karen Martin about the Photo Contest.
- Fran Maye “bridged” with eight or so community members, who gave him leads on stories for The Kennett Paper.
- Jessie Cocks “bridged” gave out flyers about the Rainbow Concert and Jeanne Searer about Cinco de Mayo. She also bought a book.
- Chris McDonald, ED of Friends Home “bridged” with Karen Martin about the Photo Context and Harry Hammond, who has helped her with projects at Friends. She also needs volunteers to accompany seniors on bus trips. Email: CMcDonald@fhkennett.org
- Wendy Meyers “bridged” with several groups who will map their involvement in doing assessments for adverse childhood experiences. She also passed out flyers for the Single Mothers’ Conference and Expo.
- Esther Rochester and Kris Russomagno sold thirteen books, “The Story of Kennett” and Joan Holliday autographed them.

Bridging the Community was held on Wednesday, May 10, 2017 at 7pm at Kennett High School, 100 E. South St., Kennett Square, PA. Forty-two engaging community members attended the 113th Bridging meeting/gathering on a cool spring evening.

The next meeting will be held on Wednesday, July 12, 2017 at His Mission, 342 E. Birch St., Kennett Square, PA. The Annual Potluck (No-Infrastructural Tom Hoehle Inspiration) will start at 6pm, when everyone shows up with some healthy food to grill, or a side dish/salad and join in a community meal together. **Meeting will begin at 7pm.** Each and all are welcome to one or both events. Email Joan Holliday with questions dochollisv@aol.com

Minutes of *Bridging* meetings are posted on the NEW web site: www.bridgingthecommunity.wordpress.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. There is a temporary lapse due to being hacked.

Jeanne Searer led us in a moment of silence for world unity and peace.

Jeanne Searer shared the Framework and Joan Holliday shared the Guiding Principles.
Email: jeannecrew491@hotmail.com and dochollisv@aol.com

Dr. Barry Tomasetti (Kennett District Superintendent) told us that the Kennett High School has diversity as one of its strengths and believes that education is the pathway to becoming middle class. Recently, the school was named one of the “Best High Schools in the United States” by the US News and World Report---this is based on many factors, but one being the strong STEM program, and the other factor is based on the success of students going on to higher education. The district has developed an APEX program, helping Latino parent leaders help other parents learn about the importance of education and how to support their children throughout the school year. The district also invites past students, who now are college graduates to present to the students and parents about the importance of education.
Email: btomasetti@kcsd.org

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.

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

New Attendees introduced themselves:

Elizabeth (Community) told us that she is running for Congress. She also picked up a book that she had purchased of “The Story of Kennett: Shaping Our Future One Child at a Time.”

Norma Diego-Flores (LCH) told us that she has worked for the agency for three years. They have a health clinic, social services and education classes. Email: ndiego-flores@lchps.org

Louise Bennett (Kendal/Crosslands Communities) told us that she moved to the area 12/2016. She is becoming involved in many community volunteer efforts through “Way Forward” at Kendal with over 100 members. Email: louise@bennetthousehold.com

Brad Dunn (Good Neighbors) told us about how this group helps make low-income owner homes, warmer, safer, drier and healthier. They need volunteers and no experience is needed. Email: brad@vcfbarn.com

Al Marcus (Kennett Community) told us that he has lived in the Kennett area for 26 years and is helping at the Kennett Area Senior Center, where they always need volunteers. Email: alfranmarcus@aol.com

Ryan Samuels (Evo Kinect—Digital Marketing Experts) told us that he is part of Kennett Rotaract and is looking for volunteer opportunities. He does personal training. Email: rsamuels@evokinect.com or ryansamuels110@gmail.com

Phil Donohue (Jenners Pond) told us that he has lived at Jenner’s Pond for 17 years. He is President of the Resident’s Council. He would like to learn more about the larger community and was told by Leon Spencer to attend this meeting. Email: onordinarytime@yahoo.com

Courtney Taylor (YoungMoms non-profit) told us that she is Program Assistant. This organization works with young moms to help them reach their life goals, develop life skills and learn parenting skills. They have “Club Night” once a month during which time a presentation is given and a meal is shared. During this time, volunteers are needed for childcare and preparing and serving the meal. They also are looking for volunteer mentors. Email: Courtney.taylor@youngmomscommunity.com

Cole Petrillo (Kennett Rotaract) told us that he went to KHS years ago, and just now noticed an art picture he did of mushrooms hanging in this room. He works for Duffield Associates and has experience in the environmental field. He is looking for volunteer opportunities. Email: cpetrillo@duffnet.com

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

Kelly Sharp (Kennett Area YMCA) told us that she is the Volunteer Coordinator for the Kennett Area YMCA. She is looking for volunteers. Email: ksharp@ymcagbw.org

Kate Uhler (Community) told us that she will be graduating with her Masters in Non-Profit Management in two weeks. She is looking for a job. She has had several jobs in the non-profit agencies in Kennett in the past eight years, the latest being working with “Bridges out of Poverty” at Kennett Area Community Services. There is training for community members and non-profit agency leaders. Please see her at the time of “bridging” to sign-up. After the meeting contact Melanie Weiler at: Melanie@kacsonline.net

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

Stephanie Bernasconi (Education Coordinator for Brandywine Red Clay Alliance) told us that they have many events for community volunteers. **They have summer camp scholarships available.** They also have several job openings including teaching to students during summer camp. Email:

sbernasconi@brandywineredclay.org or contact@brandwineredclay.org

Amanda Schneider (Kennett Rotaract) told us that she is interested in helping Rotaract take on community projects. Email: aschneider212@gmail.com

Kris Russomagno (Community) told us that she attends the bridging meetings to find out how she could help out. She is web master for the Bridging the Community and is publisher and editor of the recent book about Kennett. Email: kris.russomagno@gmail.com

Mary Ann Piccard (Kennett Arts Alliance) told us that she is looking for persons who like to knit or crochet to create a pop up art called "Yarn Bombing." Google it and see the magic that this process can create in a town. Email: hobbyist2037@verizon.net

Joan Holliday (Kennett Arts Alliance) told us that there will be more expressions of art in the town, as Historic Kennett Square, grassroots leaders and Kennett Township are joining in several efforts to help "cultivate the arts". Look for alley art, pop-up art and more exhibitions as starters. If you would like to get involved, please email: dochollisv@aol.com

Cathy Brison (Community) told us that the MLK Advocates sponsored an event, "How to talk to your kids about race." There will be a follow-up meeting on 5/17/17 at 7pm at Friends Meeting, Sickie St, Kennett Square. She also told us about the Kennett Run, which will take place on 5/20/17 from 7am to noon and many volunteers are needed. Email: Cabrisonmm@aol.com

Bob Whitlock (Kennett Area Senior Center) has lived in the community for 36 years. The Senior Center will have their annual fundraiser the end of August with a silent auction. They are looking for board members and help with the fundraiser. They also will have an in-house garage sale on 6/2-3/17 and need volunteers for set-up and break-down. Email: rhw@vet.upenn.edu

Mikey Glass (The Garage Community & Youth Center) told us that they will have Career Compass again this year. They are looking for businesses to give students internship experience in their field (i.e. hairdressing, mechanics, graphic design, computers etc.) They also are looking for a graphic design teacher. Email: michael.glass@garageyouthcenter.org

Aimee Bowers (Community) has started a Kennett Square Axillary Rotary Club. They have between 8-10 members and are looking for service projects for one day a month. They meet at Two Stones Pub, 843 E. Baltimore Pk, Kennett Square, PA on Sundays at 11am and you are welcome to join them. Email: abowers@clarionlaw.net

Janet Zeis (Chester County Emergency Services) told us about the event that is happening in Philadelphia on 5/23/17 called "On The Table." An opportunity to have a conversation about current world issues. Email: jzeiz@chesco.org

Deanna Koepcke (Community) “On The Table” is being sponsored by Chester County Community Foundation and the Hadley Foundation who are holding this type of event at 6:30pm at Friends Meeting, Sickle Street, Kennett Square on 5/23/17. Email: dkoepcke@hotmail.com

Holly Poole (Public Health Nurse) told us that she gathers information from Bridging for the clients that she makes home visits to in the Kennett area. Her clients are prenatal, postpartum and child health up to 2 years old. She makes assessments, assures medical care and provides health education and guidance. Email: hpoole@chesco.org

Karen D’Agusto (Girl Scouts Service Manager) told us that Girl Scouts need meaningful community projects and requests may be sent to Karen. She also shared that two KHS students (Samantha Sullivan and Sarah Ploner) won citizenship awards out of 14,000 girl scouts. There were also five KMS who won silver awards. She also has a petition for East Marlborough residents to sign to stop gerrymandering. There will be a Presentation, “Why Fair Districts Matter to You” on 5/11/17 about gerrymandering at Unionville high school with discussion of Senate Bill 22. Email: kdagusto@aol.com

Bob George (Community) talked about the new book, “The Story of Kennett: Shaping Our Future One Child at A Time” that he and Joan Holliday had written with interviews from nearly fifty community members. He had copies to sell. They are \$14.99 and also may be purchased on Amazon. Bob also commented that several readers from outside the Kennett community emphasized the importance of having Bridging meetings to keep volunteerism alive and well. Email: georgert@gmail.com,

Clara Vasquez (Domestic Violence) told us that they have a job opening for a bi-lingual legal advocate for Coatesville, and Oxford area. Clara also told us that she graduated from Kennett High School and appreciated the support that was given to her and her family. Email: cvazquez@dvccc.com

Laura Gonzalez (Community) told us about the wonderful raised box gardens that are available for rent for individuals or families at Anson B Nixon Park for the summer for \$25. They have moved the location and now there are 60 beds; 20 still available. Soil is provided free, along with water access, and the experience of sharing the community process with all generations and cultures. Sign up ASAP. She also spoke about the opioid epidemic and spoke about a conference in Pittsburg that she will be attending. If anyone wants to join her, please contact her. Email: gntlzlr@gmail.com

Jeanne Searer (Community) told us that she is expressing gratitude to the community for the successful Cinco de Mayo on Sunday, May 7th. In spite of the rain and cold weather, people came out and over 10,000 people attended. They had five dance troops and excellent food and vendors celebrating the Latino culture. Contact Jeanne: jeannecrew491@hotmail.com

Anne Humes (Kendal Communities) told us that she submits articles to the Kendal monthly newsletter and she would like to solicit ideas for volunteer opportunities for Kendal residents. Even though many residents do not like to go out at night, they have many talents and can support the community in many ways. Please give her some ideas. Phone: 610-388-1199.

Harry Hammond (Kendal Communities) spoke about the transportation issues in the area and that it is a dead zone. He would like names and emails of agencies, who will be willing to fill out a survey and sign a petition for better transportation in SCC. See him at “bridging.” Email: harryhammond@verizon.net

Claudia Turner (Path Stone/Migrant Head Start) told us about the daycare/pre-school services that they provide for migrant farm families from April through March. Children are from ages 6 weeks to 6 years. Path Stone received a grant for pre-K for 3-5 year olds---open from September thru June to Kennett area

families, paying on a sliding fee scale. The definition of the term “agricultural industry” has been greatly expanded. Path Stone includes categories and jobs that will increase the number of families that are eligible to enroll in the program. They also have an employee training programs for workers who would like to switch careers. There are two part-time openings to help students with homework.

Email: cturner@pathstone.org

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

- Cathy Brison “bridged” with Mikey Glass encouraging her to speak to S&L on Cypress and Willow about a graphic design teacher. She also “bridged” with Ryan Samuels about volunteering for the after-school After the Bell program and the YMCA Kennett Run. Finally, she spoke to Jeanne Searer about getting sponsors to provide empty tents at next year’s Cinco de Mayo, to get out of the rain and gain protection from the cold.
- Bob Whitlock “bridged” with Ryan Samuels about Rotaract helping with the Senior Center Annual Fundraiser. Bob “bridged” with Bob George and bought a book.
- Harry Hammond “bridged” with many agencies, who would like to complete survey for SCC transportation issue.
- Aimee Bowers “bridged” with Stephanie about Rotaract helping at the Merrick Center and also Good Neighbors Home Repair for volunteering.
- Karen D’Agusto “bridged” with two persons, who signed the gerrymandering petition. She also handed out flyers for the Presentation 5/11/17.
- Kelly Sharp “bridged” with Ann Humes and Kris Russomagno about volunteer opportunities.
- Brad Dunn “bridged” with Aimee Bowers, Ryan Samuels, Amanda Schneider about helping Good Neighbors with computer support.
- Kate Uhler “bridged” with two persons, who are signing-up for Bridges Out of Poverty training. She also “bridged” with Good Neighbors and Harry Hammond.
- Ann Marie Barr “bridged” with Kate Uhler to sign-up for Bridges Out of Poverty and spoke with Dave Haradon about state and federal budget cuts and concerns related to low-income services.
- Janet Zeis “bridged” with Deanne Koepcke about “On the Table” conversations.
- Laura Gonzalez “bridged” with Stephanie Bernasconi about camp scholarships and Dave Haradon about joining the Longwood Rotary.
- Karen D’Agusto “bridged” with Al Marcus and learned the story of Eric Roe, Congressman actually personally dropping off an auto registration to Al’s home.
- Joan Holliday “bridged” with Louise Bennett, selling her a book and welcoming her to the Kennett area. She also “bridged” with Esther Rochester, who wants to continue to be involved in Kennett student art show next year.

Bridging the Community was held on Wednesday, July 12, 2017 at His Mission, 342 E. Birch St., Kennett Square, PA. The Annual Potluck (No-infrastructure-- a Tom Hoehle inspiration) started at 6pm, when everyone showed up with healthy food and joined in a community meal together. Meeting began at 7pm. Fifty-four dedicated community members attended the 114th Bridging meeting/gathering on a steamy hot, sunny summer evening.

The next meeting will be held on Wednesday, September, 13, 2017 at The Kennett Library, 216 E. State St., Kennett Square, PA in the basement meeting room at 7pm.

Minutes of *Bridging* meetings are posted on the NEW web site:

www.bridgingthecommunity.wordpress.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. There is a temporary lapse due to being hacked.

Pastor Carlos Navarro led us in a prayer before our picnic meal. Maurice grilled juicy hamburgers and hot dogs and there was an abundance of healthy food selections. The group enjoyed a meal together under umbrella tables provided by the His Mission family volunteers.

Joan Holliday shared the Framework and **Jeanne Searer** shared the Guiding Principles.

Email: jeannecrew491@hotmail.com and dochollisv@aol.com **David Haradon** was at the wedding of his son, Jonathan so was unable to attend. We sent best wishes his way and gave him a group "Hey!"

Toni Butcher shared information about His Mission. It has been in existence for 42 years and Mrs. Margaret Valentine's family has continued to dedicate their time and resources to this mission. They are a homeless shelter for single men, a soup kitchen and supplier of clothing and furniture as requested by community members in need. They are in operation 7 days a week, 24 hours a day. They need food, toilet paper and money donations. Email: butcher72@gmail.com or tamikabutcher@yahoo.com

Joan Holliday 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:

Melissa Francis (Boothwyn Pharmacy) told us that they are specialty pharmacy offering human and veterinary medications. They are located at 221 Gale Lane, Kennett Square, PA; Phone: 1-800-476-7496.

Email: melissa.francis@bpi-rx.com

Emily Carnes (Penn State College) told us that she has her internship in hospitality at Friends Home. She will graduate in May of 2018. She came to experience a Bridging meeting.

Harry Woodard (10-year-old grandson of Joan and Bob Holliday) told us that he is visiting his grandparents from Mountainside, New Jersey. He participates in many different sports. He had a bag of stuffed animals to donate to anyone who had a child that would like one.

Sue McCann and Carol Antes (Kennett Resale Book Store) told us that they are looking for book donations, even old text books. They are having a "Teacher Appreciation Day" at the Kennett Resale Book Store, 113 S. Union St., Kennett Square on 8/19/17 from 10am to 5pm. Teacher may fill a large bag with books for school or personal use for \$25 plus tax. Email: smccann@gmail.com

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

Marina Haley (Recent Cabrini Graduate) told us that she came to a Bridging meeting in September 2016 and announced that she was looking for a job. She "bridged" with Christine McDonald, ED of Friends Home and has been working there part-time. Now she is looking for a full-time job. She also is looking for a youth group of her age group to join. Email: marinajhaley@gmail.com

Antoinette Gomez (Community) told us that she lived in Kennett 8 years ago. She has returned and lives at 339 S. Union St., Kennett Square, PA. She is working on her doctorate in Marriage and Family Therapy and is looking for an internship with an agency that has a licensed mental health professional. She has a one-year old daughter, Isabella who she introduced to us. Email: Harmonycounseling709@gmail.com

Roberta Eldridge (Community) told us that as an animal lover she is promoting "Kitty Café." The opening is 8/01/17 and there will be a celebration on 8/19/17 from noon to 7pm at TreeTops Kitty Café, located at 305 W. State St., Kennett (previous Paws and Claws location.) It is a place to hang out, enjoy a snack/coffee, and spend time with adoptable cats and kittens from Treetops Rescue. Great for young children and community members, who love animals and want to socialize, as well. The Cafe will double as an adoption center. www.Facebook.com/treetopskittycafe and www.Treetopsrescue.org

Laura Mackiewicz (LCH Outreach) told us that LCH is a non-profit health care, social service and education Center that serves clients with and without insurance. They are bi-lingual. They are located at 731 W. Cypress St., Kennett, PA. They also have a new dental clinic at 401 McFarland Rd., 302A, Kennett Square and are open for clients with or without insurance. They will hold their Annual 5K Run and Walk on 9/23/17 Anson B Nixon Park; please sign-up. They also are looking for a stationary bike someone is willing to donate for a blind client to promote exercise. Email: LMackiewicz@lchps.org

Pam Eppinger (Phoenix Press) told us that there will be a Landenberg Day at Borderland Vineyards, 332 Indiantown Road, Landenberg, PA on August 5th, 2017 from 11am -to9 pm. There is no rain date. They are expecting 2000+ this year. There will be on-site parking and they need 10 volunteers for 4 hour shifts to help with parking. Volunteers will receive a free pass, and meal. Any volunteers should send an email to Phoenixpress2@gmail.com

Pastor Carlos Navarro (Community) told us that he is planning a Block Party in Anson B. Nixon Park to “Celebrate Our Diversity and Unity” on Sunday, 7/30/17 2pm for music and food and program at 4pm. There will be three purposes for the time together: 1) Celebrate our diversity; 2) Advocate for unity; 3) Alleviate tension around current divisive political climate. Please attend and bring food to share. Email: jenavarro_us@yahoo.com; Call: 302-766-4698.

Amanda Schneider (Kennett Rotaract) told us that she is interested in helping Rotaract take on community projects. They also need more members for persons between 18 and 30 years old. Email: aschneider212@gmail.com

Anne Humes (Kendal Communities) encourage attendees to support His Mission for one of their needs by donating toilet paper. She also promoted Together for Education for Jennifer Lewis. They need tutors for 2nd and 3rd grades 1 hour a week, any day or time. Contact Jennifer at: jlewis@tfed.org

Milena Lanz (ED Maternal Child Health Consortium) told us that she was attending with Cecilia Arce from her agency and two others from the Family Center. They provide support to young families and could use donations for school supplies. Email: mlanz@ccmchc.org

Carol Vidal (MCHMC) told us about a family that lost the father of four children. They need school supplies and clothing. For more information: 610-612-4028. Email: cvidal@ccmchc.org

Jeanne Searer (Casa Guanajuato) told us that this group will be setting up their schedule for next year. They still hope to host Cinco de Mayo, Dia de los Muertos and a Mexican Independence Day on 9/16/17 at Anson B Nixon Park. They will continue to promote art projects on Third Thursdays. Email: jeannecrew491@hotmail.com

Jeanne also shared that Laura Gonzalez and Luis Tovar were attending a conference, “Promoting Recovery and Wellness” for Individuals, Families and Communities and hope to bring the program back to our area.

Kathy Do (After the Bell) This after-school program for middle school students will be starting up in the fall again and are looking for volunteers to serve two hours one day a week for 6 weeks. Email: executivedirector@afterthebell.org

Janet Zeis (Dept. of Emergency Services) told us that there is funding to help veterans through the Veterans Multi Service Center, 605 E. Lincoln Hwy, Coatesville, PA; Phone: 215-923-2600. She also shared the success story of attending a Bridging meeting and requesting volunteers for a training—American Red Cross Disaster College. She is pleased to say that she recruited three volunteers, who are attending the meeting tonight. Email: jzeis@chesco.org

Elizabeth Stinson, Janis Reynolds and Terri Stinson (Community) told us that they attended the American Red Cross Disaster College that they heard about at Bridging, and highly recommend community members getting involved, as Chester County is short on volunteers. The training helps them support local disaster, which include fires and weather-related incidences, and provides education about how to be prepared in the case of a disaster. Janis focused on blood donations and reported the need to donate blood, as there is a shortage. Blood may be donated every 58 days and now there is a Rapid Pass, which provides information and a questionnaire on-line to speed up the donation process. There is a walk-in site on Gay Street, West Chester: www.redcrossblood.org/locations/west-chester-donor-center
Emails: Elizabeth.stinson@verizon.net; Chaddsford19317@yahoo.com; TerriStinson@comcast.net

Elizabeth Moro (Berkshire Hathaway Real Estate) told us that she is running for public office and is a Democrat candidate to become Representative of PA 7th District. www.elizabethmoro.com or info@elizabethmoro.com

Claudia Turner (Path Stone/Migrant Head Start) told us about the daycare/pre-school services that they provide for migrant farm families from April through March. Children are from ages 6 weeks to 6 years. Path Stone also has a pre-K for 3-5 year olds---open from September thru June to Kennett area families, paying on a sliding fee scale. Please make referrals. Email: cturner@pathstone.org

Janet Cordova and Daniel Zavala (Pathstone) told us that they also have employment services provided for the agricultural workers. They provide training for mechanics, pharmacy assistant, nursing assistant and commercial driver's license. They have a job opening at Granite Estates for residential services from 2pm to 8pm Monday through Thursday. Email: jcordova@pathstone.org and dzavala@pathstone.org

Louise Bennett (Kendal/Crosslands Communities) told us about the 42 volunteers who teach ESL once a week at their site. This has been a rewarding experience all the way around. They also are conducting a backpack drive for the families of the students. Email: louise@bennethousehold.com

Christine McDonald (ED Friends Home) told us that they also have residents, who tutor students in ESL and one resident sold a poetry book at Cinco de Mayo festival. They participate in First Friday and Third Thursday by having a band playing on their front porch. Community members are welcome to visit and also volunteer. Email: CMcDonald@fhkennett.org

Joan Holliday (Community) told us that the book, "The Story of Kennett: Shaping Our Future One Child at A Time," which was created by a team of three (Joan Holliday, Bob George and Kris Russomagno) has presented a \$1,000 scholarship to a high school community volunteer, Edwin Castaneda Campos. They have sold close to 800 books and the profits will continue to go towards scholarships. She explained that the book contains over 50 interviews demonstrating how the town of Kennett Square has rallied around the children both within the schools and through community volunteer efforts. Book for sale on Amazon and from Joan. Email: dochollisv@aol.com

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

- Melissa Francis "bridged" with Laura Mackiewicz about sponsoring LCH's 5-K and also about financial support to clients with Laura and Cecilia Arce from MCHC who do not have insurance.
- Elizabeth Moro "bridged" with Sue McCann and Carol Antes about donating books to the Kennett Resale Book Store when homeowners are selling their homes.
- Claudia Turner "bridged" with Milena Lanz about MCHC providing parenting workshops to Pre-K Counts. She also "bridged" with Roberta Eldridge around the Kitty Cafe and with the Kennett Resale Book Shop for book donations.
- Janis Reynolds "bridged" with a couple of possible blood donors.
- Anne Humes "bridged" with Elizabeth Stinson and gave a money donation to the American Red Cross.
- Jeanne Searer "bridged" with Laura Mackiewicz about recruiting help in creating piñatas at a craft table at Third Thursday in September.
- Marina Haley "bridged" with Roberta Eldridge about the job opening at Kitty Café.

- Antoinette Gomez “bridged” with Laura Mackiewicz from LCH and Louise Bennett from Kendal about interviewing for the year mental health internship with a licensed professional.
- Roberta Eldridge “bridged” with several attendees with the flyer on the Kitty Café and also invited everyone to The Kennett Coffee Klatch, which meets every Thursday from 10:30am to 11:30am at The Market at liberty Place
- Janet Zeis “bridged” with Cecilia Arce about September being Preparedness Month and providing a program. She also “bridged” with Tina Butcher from His Mission about the Veterans Multi Service Center and ways it will supports the homeless veteran.
- Joan Holliday sold 15 books.
- Harrison Woodard and Bob Holliday “bridged” with several attendees, giving them a stuffed animal donated by the Woodard family. Milena Lanz will give to some of CCMCHC clients.

Bridging the Community was held on Wednesday, September 13, 2017 at The Kennett Library, 216 E. State St., Kennett Square, PA at 7pm. Thirty-four engaging community members attended the 115th Bridging meeting/gathering on a cool autumn evening.

The next meeting will be held on Wednesday, November 08, 2017 at Kaolin Mushroom/South Mill, 649 W. South Street, Kennett Square, PA at 7pm.

Minutes of *Bridging* meetings are posted on the NEW web site: www.bridgingthecommunity.wordpress.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.

Jeanne Searer led us in a moment of silence for the victims of Hurricane Harvey & Irma and 911.

Megan Walters (ED Kennett Library) told us that the library has now bought the Weinstein lot at the intersection of East State Street and South Willow Street—just up the hill from the YMCA from the Kennett Borough and will have their 1st Annual Fundraiser on 10/12/17 at the Mendenhall Inn. She invited everyone to go to the website at www.kennettlibrary.org to learn about all the programs that are offered at the library. She pointed out that the new library will have more meeting space for the community. Email: mwalters@ccls.org

Joan Holliday shared the Framework and **Jeanne Searer** shared the Guiding Principles. Email: jeannecrew491@hotmail.com and dochollisv@aol.com **David Haradon** was at the wedding of an extended family member, so was not present. In line with his process, we sent best wishes his way by taking a photo of the group to send to him.

Jeanne Searer and Joan Holliday co-facilitated the meeting.

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:

Katrina Koenig (Global Aid Network (GAIN) told us that this is a world-wide humanitarian effort that invites community groups, agencies, churches and others to set-up and participate in packaging food events to aid world hunger. They also have other projects supporting the poor, world-wide. They are always looking for groups, who will participate. Email: kkoenig53@gmail.com or Steve Baker: at: steve.baker@gainusa.org. Check out: www.gainusa.org

Laura Florence (Indivisible KSQ) told us that she helped form this group after the November election to help promote civic engagement. They are non-partisan. They meet once a month and have teams who

are working on helping inform immigrants of their rights and safeguards; gerrymandering; helping DACA youth renew their permits before the deadline of 10/5/17. Check out their Facebook page and website. Contact Laura to attend the next meeting at Friends Meeting on 10/7/17 from 9:30am to 11am. Email: lauraflorence@gmail.com

Filomena Elliott (Kennett Library Adult Literacy Program) told us that they are always looking for tutors, who would volunteer 1-3 hours a week to help a student learn English, complete their GED or prepare for American Citizenship. There will be a training in September and October. Please consider volunteering. The community relationships that are developed is the bonus. Email: felliott@ccls.org

Dennis Arrouet (Longwood Rotarian) told us that he has lived in Kennett Square for two years and is involved in volunteering several organizations besides the Rotary---Project Cure---Zoom transportation for CVIM and others. He is interested in what is happening in the community. Email: dennis.arrouet@gmail.com

Amy Scheuren (KACs) told us that she works with Kennett Area Community Services in the Bridges Out of Poverty effort---educating those who want to move out of poverty in the "Getting Ahead in a Just Getting-By World." She is looking for volunteers who will provide child care, while she teaches weekly classes for 17 weeks for participants, who are in the program. She is looking for participants (emphasis on Kennett Township) and volunteers. Email: amy@kacsonline.net

Dylan Garrett (Community) told us that he moved here recently and is the son of Bobbie Garrett, who works at Longwood Gardens and the grandson of Robert Garrett. He was invited to Bridging by Laura Gonzalez. Email: dylangarrett99@gmail.com

Kelly Sharp (Kennett Area YMCA Volunteer Coordinator) told us that she started in March 2017 at the YMCA. The week of 9/15-22/17 is a "Welcome to Newcomers Week." They will have art projects throughout the week and are looking for volunteers to facilitate the art projects. On 9/22/17 they will host a multi-cultural night with foods, flags and music/performances. They are looking for volunteers to set-up from 4-6pm and also for break down. 10/28/17 is their annual coat drive along with a Healthy Halloween event. They distribute Thanksgiving baskets and have an Angel tree. Email: ksharp@ymcagbw.org

Brenda Mercomes (Kennett Borough Council Candidate) told us that she is running for borough council and welcomes conversations with community members about their concerns. Email: bijou291@comcast.net

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

Louise Bennett (Kendal Crosslands Communities) told us that she is involved with Indivisible KSQ and has an application for Dreamers (DACA) to apply for a \$495 grant given by the Philadelphia Foundation to cover the fee required to renew their Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) permits. Application deadline is 5pm on 9/25/17. See link for copy of application <http://paimmigrant.org/vp-content/uploads/2017/09/2017-Dreamers-Initiative-Application.pdf> She also has additional school supplies to donate to those in need. Email: louise@bennetthousehold.com

Noah Lessner (WC University Student) told us that he is becoming more involved in civic affairs, because he has a friend affected by DACA. He is President of his Psychology Club and has pulled together students to address the DACA issue. There will be a presentation by CATA Union on 9/28/17 from 4-5pm at the Student Union. Email: NL821820@wcupa.edu

Stephanie Bernasconi (Education Coordinator for Brandywine Red Clay Alliance) told us that they have programs for Scouts and many other programs for members---sign up! They also have their annual clean-up day on 9/30/17 from 8am to noon and need volunteers. They have two job openings----Director of Development and Business Director. Email: sbernasconi@brandywineredclay.org or contact@brandwineredclay.org

Linda Theis (Kennett Jewelers/Merchants Association) told us that The Garage is partnering with the merchants to put on a grand month of town decorations from 10/9 through 11/15 with scarecrows decorating the town. They currently have 35 plus participants, and are inviting area businesses and non-profits to display a scarecrow. Entries must be displayed by 10/9 and the most "likes" on Facebook will be announced at the parade. Linda is looking for volunteers to help organize the parade on 10/29/17 from 3-5pm. She also told us that everyone needs to check out the "Day of the Dead" celebration at the American Legion Hall on 11/3/17 from 5-9pm, as it is amazing. Email: ksjlinda2@gmail.com or Kristin.proto@garageyouthcenter.org

Melody Caulfield (LCH) told us that this a high quality, award-winning, medical, dental, and social service agency that also has English, GED and citizen classes. Everyone is welcome and can pay on a sliding scale basis or through insurance. They will hold their Annual 5K Run or 1 Mile Walk on 9/23/17 Anson B Nixon Park at 8am registration that day, or sign-up on the web site at: www.lacomunidadhispana.org . Fee is \$15 per person. Email: mcaulfield@lchps.org

Claudia Turner (Path Stone/Migrant Head Start) told us about the daycare/pre-school services that they provide for migrant farm families from April through March. (There is a broader qualification of migrant agriculture.) Children are from ages 6 weeks to 6 years. Path Stone also has a pre-K for 3-5 year olds---open from September thru June to Kennett area families, paying on a sliding fee scale and don't have to be working in agriculture. Please make referrals. Email: cturner@pathstone.org

Karen Martin (Kennett Re-Sale Book Shoppe) told us that this shop benefits the Kennett Area Senior Center. They are partnering with The Garage to secure books and movies related to the reading projects that the youth are engaging. They are looking for Harry Potter Sorcerer's Stone. Bring donation to Karen at the Shoppe. Email: furrytails4426@hotmail.com

Lizbeth Connors (Kennett Area Senior Center) told us that they have Sunday Dinner with Friends/Mushroom Celebration on 9/17/17 from 1-2pm and 2-3pm, Pro Musica Studio and Bonnie Crews. They also are having an indoor yard sale on 9/23/17 rain or shine 8am to 3pm. Email: lconnors@kennettseiorcenter.org

Christine McDonald (ED Friends Home) told us that Heartland Hospice will hold a Caregiver Survival meeting for loved ones with dementia on 10/18/17 from 6-7pm. They are looking for a Spanish teacher. Community members are welcome to visit and also volunteer. Email: CMcDonald@fhkennett.org

Kate Uhler (Constellation Network) told us that this organization creates collaborations of non-profits and others to promote the common good. They currently are supporting the Bridges Out of Poverty effort at KACs and are behind community initiatives. Email: kuhler@theconstellationnetwork.com

Leslie Lessner (Community) told us that she volunteers at Project Cure weekly. They need volunteers to sort medical supplies that are shipped to third world countries. The service hours are 9:30am to 11:30am; 1:30-3:30pm and 3:30-5:30pm. If you want to know more contact: lslessner@gmail.com or Kathy Hrenko at: Kathyhrenko@projectcure.org

LaToya Myers (Carter CDC) told us that they had a successful National Night Out and a time during the summer that focused on community relationships with the police. They have returned to Study Buddies after-school program. They need someone to donate a healthy snack for Tuesday. The snack could be dropped off at 3:45pm. LaToya is on Kennett Borough Council and is up for re-election on 11/7/17. Email: lmyers@cartercdc.org

Jeanne Searer (Casa Guanajuato) told us that there will be a celebration of the Mexican Day of Independence at Anson B Nixon Park from 3-7pm on 9/16/17. They will have piñatas there, as well as at the park on 9/23/17 and on 3rd Thursday in Kennett. Email: jeannecrew491@hotmail.com

Laura Gonzalez (ACOLA) told us that the Advisory Commission on Latino Affairs was formed in the past year. They provide input to the Kennett Borough Council about Latino concerns and needs in the community. She also invited residents to the Indivisible KSQ meeting. There are teams that volunteers can join and it is very well organized. Email: ganzlzl@sbcglobal.net

Holly Poole (CCHD PHN) told us that the health department is giving flu shots for both uninsured and insured. To schedule an appointment go to www.chesco.org or call: 610-344-6252. SCC locations are: **10/5/17** Unionville HS from 3-7pm; **10/19/17** Kennett HS 2:30-6:30pm; **10/23/17** Avongrove HS from 2:30-6pm.; **11/3/17** Oxford Union Fire Co. 6-8:30pm. Also, flu shots are being given at The Kennett Family Center, The Bridge, and Oxford Neighborhood Services. Email: hpoole@chesco.org

Pam Carter (Anson B Nixon Park) told us that whenever a group wants to hold an event at the park, they must contact the park at: ansonbnixonpark@gmail.com or call: 610-444-1416 to make reservations. They will be holding a "Rock the Park" fundraiser to build a dog park on 9/24/17. Go to the web site for reservations: www.ansonbnixonpark.org Pam's Email: pamelacarterf64@gmail.com

Joan Holliday (Community) told us that the book, "The Story of Kennett: Shaping Our Future One Child at A Time," which was created by a team of three (Joan Holliday, Bob George and Kris Russomagno) has an August revised copy with six additional interviews. Joan has copies of the book to sell. Book for sale on Amazon and from Joan. Email: dochollisv@aol.com or call 610-717-2180.

Megan Walters (ED Kennett Library) told us that there is a bulletin board on the first floor of the library and community members are welcome to display local dated events. Bring flyer to the desk to assure it is appropriate for display. Email: mwalters@ccls.org

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

- Cathy Brison "bridged" with Laura Florence around ways that the MLK Advocates can work with Indivisible KSQ around the DACA concerns.

- Joan Holliday “bridged” with Holly Poole around an event on 10/4/17 that will bring together Mary d Lang teachers with non-profits, who work with pre-school children, to address ways to increase kindergarten readiness for community children. She also “bridged” with Pam Carter with the purchase of two books.
- Jeanne Searer “bridged” with Linda Theis about Casa Guanajuato making scarecrows for the town; with Laura Florence about DACA; with Kelly Sharp about help with the multi-culture night at the YMCA; and with Steve Baker around Global Aid Network for Casa Guanajuato.
- Noah Lessner “bridged” with Filomena Elliott about becoming a tutor with the Adult Literacy Program and with Laura Florence and Louise Bennett about ways Indivisible KSQ can work with West Chester University to provide community support around DACA.
- Christine McDonald “bridged” with Steve Baker about Friends Home residents participating in a GAIN’s project. She also “bridged” with Laura Gonzalez, who has agreed to teach a Spanish class at Friend’s Home. She “bridged” with Linda Theis about residents showcasing their scarecrows outside the building in concert with the town’s October-November decoration project.
- Megan Walters “bridged” with Pam Carter about the Eclipse viewing event that the library held at Anson B Nixon Park. She also “bridged” with Linda Theis about the library participating in the scarecrow town display.
- Laura Florence “bridged” with Noah Lessner about joining Kennett and West Chester’s DACA efforts through a joint march to build public awareness of concern. She also “bridged” with Kate Uhler from Constellation and how they can work together with Indivisible KSQ.
- Lizbeth Conners “bridged” with Kate Uhler around a project that Constellation will be supporting for the seniors at the Kennett Area Senior Center. She also was happy to meet Amy Scheuren from KACS, who she has worked with her around social services on the phone, but she had never met her.
- Kelly Sharp “bridged” with Lizbeth Conners about ways that the seniors can be involved at YMCA and with Jeanne Searer around multi-cultural day at the YMCA.
- Louise Bennett “bridged” with Lizbeth Conners around Sunday Dinners with Friends at Senior Center; with Melody Caulfield around Kendal participating in the LCH Walk; with Noah Lessner around DACA concerns and with LaToya Myers around donating school supplies to Study Buddies.
- Ron Turner “bridged” with Amy Scheuren about taking the Bridges Out of Poverty workshop with his wife, Claudia Turner. He also “bridged” with Pam Carter about the Anson B Nixon Park fundraiser and with Lizbeth Conners about getting involved at the Kennett Senior Center.
- Claudia Turner “bridged” with Amy Scheuren about housing issues and programs at Pathstone and also with Laura Gonzalez about ACOLA.
- Esther Rochester “bridged” with Linda Theis about volunteering for the Halloween Parade.

Bridging the Community was held on Wednesday, November 08, 2017 at South Mill/Kaolin Mushroom, 649 W. South Street, Kennett Square, PA at 7pm. Thirty-four engaging community members attended the 116th Bridging meeting/gathering on a crisp autumn evening.

The next meeting will be held on Wednesday, January 10, 2018 at Kennett Area YMCA, 106 Race Street, Kennett Square, PA at 7pm.

Minutes of *Bridging* meetings are posted on the NEW web site:

www.bridgingthecommunity.wordpress.com or there is a copy of the minutes at the Kennett Library.

Bridging the Community meetings are held at different sites every time---to provide exposure to all segments of the community.

Joan Holliday led us in a moment of silence for the victims of the shooting at First Baptist Church, Sutherland Springs, Texas.

Jeanne Searer shared the Framework and Joan Holliday shared the Guiding Principles. David Haradon facilitated the meeting. Emails: jeannecrew491@hotmail.com and dochollisv@aol.com and daveharadon@gmail.com

Elaine Marnell (Kaolin HR employee for 25 years) told us that this site is called "South Mill" owned by the Pia family for fifty years and now has the fourth generation involved in the business. They have 750 employees and have four facilities: Landenberg, Avondale, West Grove and Kennett Square. They are 84% Latino not only from Mexico, but Guatemala and South America. They have immigrants from other countries and are a model of sorts of the "united nations." They teach citizenship classes both in English and Spanish. Elaine extended a warm welcome with a box of fresh mushrooms for each attendee, along with refreshments and snacks.

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

New Attendees introduced themselves:

Jacki Smiro (Live 4RJ) told us that she lost a son to prescription drug overdose in 2008. She helped start NOPE (Narcotics Overdose Prevention & Education) Task Force and over 20,000 school youth and community members have received the message of prevention, as well as education and support. She also created a non-profit; "Live 4RJ," which will help persons with addictions to navigate the system for receiving treatment (with or without insurance) and help with the community transition out of treatment

centers. They will hold a Planning session on 11/12/17 at Willowdale Chapel. Community members welcome. Another element of their mission is hosting a Parents Support Group. They have an event called "Come Get Fit 4 Recovery" on 12/2/17 at West Chester University. If anyone has a need, wants to volunteer or learn more contact Jackie at: Live4RJ@gmail.com/ Phone: 484-639-7990.

Faith Mackiewicz (Daughter of Laura M.) is nine months old and came with her mother to the meeting because her mother knew she would be included in the community circle. Everyone cheered for Faith.

Britton Mendenhall and **Meggie Schaeffer** (Community) presented their idea of starting a local grocery store co-op in Kennett Square. They hold the vision of it being member owned and people working together for better food, stronger communities, and a healthier planet. They are hosting a community meeting on Tuesday, 12/5/17 at 7:30pm at The Garage Youth Center, 115 S. Union Street, Kennett Square. Bring the whole family; holiday crafts for children. Please come to demonstrate support for the effort, share ideas and volunteer. They also would like a Spanish-speaking volunteer to help at the meeting. Email: brittonmendenhall@gmail.com or mshaeffer916@gmail.com

Evy Tolentino and **Diana** (Friends of Farmworkers) told us they provide legal services for farm workers. They currently are increasing their immigration services and services to educate and represent clients who are victims of notary fraud. Email: etolentino@friendsfw.org ; Phone: 215-733-0878. Ext. 225.

Louise Bennett (Kendal Communities) told us that she is attending with her friends, **Betsy Wenny** and **Edna Bauer**. They are interested in ways that the Kendal residents can continue to support the broader community. They currently have 54 ESL teachers, with students coming to Kendal for weekly classes. They also have started a movement called "Way Forward" with six sub-committees to look at ways to address concerns in the community. Emails: louise@bennetthousehold.com; betsy.wenny@gmail.com; Ednaandroger@gmail.com

Deena Jones (Community) told us that she would like to volunteer in the community. She moved to the community in the past year. She is a member of the Kennett Square Light Rotary, which meets once a month and focuses on volunteering. Email: sweetdeenajones@aol.com

Rev. Marvin T. Williams (Pastor of 2nd Baptist Church) told us that the church he pastors at 132 S. Willow Street, Kennett was started in 1891. There was a fire in 1994 and the church was rebuilt. He started as pastor in July of 1995. He is asking the community for support for a chair lift for the front church steps as his congregation has elderly members who have difficulty using the stairs. He also told us that their church invites the community to a free soup luncheon starting in January on a Saturday (Time to be announced at the next Bridging meeting.) as a way to bring together community members. Email: drwilliams9812@gmail.com

Jennifer Kriesel (The Land Conservancy of SCC) told us that their mission is the perpetual preservation & stewardship of open space, natural resources, historic sites, and working agricultural lands in SCC. (Web site: www.tlcforscc.org) They have programs for all age groups and encourage people to bring groups to their events. The upcoming Owl Prowl is a fun family event. Volunteers welcomed! Email: development@tlcforscc.org

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

Kim Engstrom, (MS Counseling) is located at: 312 W. State St., Suite 206, Kennett Square; Phone 484-558-0311. Email: KE.Counselingservices@gmail.com She provides counseling for individuals and/or families with anxiety and depression and improving communication. She also provides workshops on change and transition. She has walk-in hours. Contact her about walk-in hours to meet and determine right services for you.

Kate Uhler (The Constellation Network) told us that she attended a Bridging meeting in 2009 looking for a job and found one through the meeting. She worked in the community at KACs for several years and now, through The Constellation Network is partnering with them through their Bridges Out of Poverty process. She explained that Constellation's work is one of joining forces together to make a greater difference. In the spring of 2018, they will lead an annual "Give, Serve, Restore" effort that churches can collectively join to volunteer, donate food and money to identified specific needs in the community. Last year they had 21 churches working collaboratively on this effort. To learn more contact Kate: KUhler@theconstellationnetwork.com or Ben Stafford at: BStafford@theconstellationnetwork.com

Amy Scheuren (KACs) told us that she works with Kennett Area Community Services in the Bridges Out of Poverty effort---educating those who want to move out of poverty in the "Getting Ahead in a Just Getting-By World." She holds 16 week sessions, 3 hours a week. There also are community 3-hour education workshops, which community members can attend. Email: amy@kacsonline.net

Stephanie Bernasconi (Education Coordinator for Brandywine Red Clay Alliance) told us that they are the oldest watershed organization in the country. They recently completed restoring 500 feet of streams at 926 and Longwood. They have programs for youth, scouts and many other programs for members, so sign up! They are hosting their Annual Holiday Craft Night on 12/15/17 from 5:00-9:00pm. The children create holiday themed crafts, play games, and play outside. Members: \$20; Nonmembers: \$30. They have a job opening for Director of Development and Business Director. They always are looking for volunteers. Email: sbernasconi@brandywineredclay.org or contact@brandywineredclay.org

Laura Mackiewicz (LCH/La Comunidad Hispana) located at 731 W. Cypress Street, Kennett Square, told us that they have a premier health care center that takes insurances and also has a sliding scale fee. This is the time to reapply for Medicaid and Medicare options; services are free. They are looking for a Substance Abuse Specialist; speaking Spanish is not required. They also are looking for a Spanish-speaking Social Worker. On 12/1/2017 they are passing out new coats from 4:00pm to 7:00pm. They also welcome donations of new coats from infant through teen. Email: LMackiewicz@lchps.org

Kathy Do (After the Bell) told us that their next after-school cycle is January 23- March 1st. Volunteers are needed to help out one day a week for six weeks and can get involved in a variety of enrichment activities with the middle school youth. Also, on 11/28/17 (Giving Tuesday) please eat at Liberty Place, as 15% of proceeds will go to this after-school program. Email: executivedirector@afterthebell.org

Keith Smithyman (Family Promise) told us that he is a van driver (15 passenger van). He came to Bridging looking for a job and this came up. Family Promise is looking for another van driver to have a

team of three drivers to alternate for a 6am pick-up at Host churches to bring to the Resource Center and 6pm to bring back to Host Church. Contact ED of Family Promise at sminarchi@familypromisescc.org

Kelly Sharp (Kennett Area YMCA Volunteer Coordinator) told us that they will have their Angel Tree again this year, when members buy Christmas gifts for children. They will need help on 12/3/17 to sort the donated items. Shifts available from 9am- 7pm. Contact Kelly at: Email: ksharp@ymcagbw.org

Janet Zeis (CC Emergency Services) invited us to a Community Dialogue on Preparation-Recovery-Resilience on 12/9/17 from 9am to 4pm at West Chester University Sykes Student Union, 110 West Rosedale Ave, West Chester, PA. They are looking for an interpreter. Email: jzeis@chesco.org

Janet also is on the Board of Home of the Sparrow and encouraged us to check out their website at www.homeofthesparrow.org Their mission is to partner with women facing homelessness to secure housing, achieve long-term stability and chart new paths for their futures.

Jessie Cocks (Community) told us that the Hadley Fund provides funds for free community enrichment events. They funded the Dia de Muertos event that took place on 11/3/17. Their next event will take place at Friends Meeting on 01/14/18 at 2pm with Mark Bowden, author of Black Hawk Down, being the Presenter.

Jessie also invited anyone who would like to experience Playback Theatre on Sunday 11/12/17 from 1-4pm Free Open Rehearsal. Contact Jessie Cocks for a ride at: jessiecocks@gmail.com or 484-888-6966.

Jessie invited us to The Rainbow Chorale “Hollywood for the Holidays” concert 12/01/17 First & Central Presbyterian Church, 1101 N Market St., Wilmington, DE at 7:30pm; or attend on 12/03/17 at 3pm at St. Paul’s Evangelical Lutheran Church, 701 S. College Ave, Newark, DE. Tickets available at the door or early-bird discounts: www.therainbowchorale.org

Jessie will be attending a 7-day retreat, “A Spirit Journey to the Land and Life of Hildegard of Bingen” in Bingen on the Rhine, Germany from 04/27/18 to 5/5/18. To learn more about this retreat contact her at: jessiecocks@gmail.com

Karen D’Agusto (Girl Scouts Service Manager) told us that they now have fifty-two Latino girls who have joined Girl Scouts. They are looking for volunteers for transportation to events.

Karen also spoke about Indivisible KSQ, which is a group of concerned citizens in the Kennett Square area who are working to open more doors and to help more people in the community. Karen works on the Legal Committee, which has created cards for undocumented migrant workers with information about their rights and available resources to guide them. Email: kdagusto@aol.com

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

- Cathy Brison “bridged” with Laura Mackiewicz around the coat drive. MLK Advocates would like to donate hats and gloves. She also ‘bridged” with Kathy Do with a contribution to After the Bell.
- Jessie Cocks “bridged” with LCH around the coat donation drive; Kathy Do to re-energize After the Bell volunteers at Friends Meeting; and with Meggie Schaeffer & Britton Mendenhall around the grocery co-op.
- Rev Marvin Williams “bridged” with Dave Haradon, Esther Rochester and Joan Holliday, who will work as a team to explore resources for the chair lift for 2nd Baptist Church.

- Deena Jones “bridged” with Jennifer Kriesel about the programs at the Land Conservancy of SCC; with Meggie Schaffer around the grocery co-op to volunteer and with Rev Marvin Williams to volunteer at 2nd Baptist’s Soup Saturday in the winter months.
- Louise Bennett “bridged” with the Land Conservancy; Friends of Farmworkers and Emergency Services. She also discussed the retreat in Germany with Jessie Cocks. She has flyers to put on the Kendal bulletin board.
- Kate Uhler “bridged” with Britton Mendenhall and Meggie Schaeffer with encouragement for the grocery co-op to work with the Kennett Food Cupboard; with Rev Marvin Williams learning of needs of his congregation; with the Friends of Farmworkers around housing concerns; and with Indivisible KSQ to learn more about their efforts.
- Kim Engstrom “bridged” with Jacki Smiro around ways she can support her non-profit as a counselor.
- Jeanne Searer “bridged” with Jessie Cocks around the Hadley Fund with appreciation of their financial support of Dia de Muertos. She also “bridged” with Friends of Farmworkers around housing issues.
- Joan Holliday “bridged” with Meggie Schaeffer and Britton Mendenhall around involving Carter CDC in the discussion about creating a community-wide grocery co-op.
- Laura Mackiewicz “bridged with Karen D’Agusto around the Girl Scout opportunities for clients at LCH
- Karen D’Agusto “bridged” with Laura Mackiewicz on Stephanie Bernasconi’s behalf around LCH clients attending the Annual Holiday Craft Night.
- Janet Zeis told us that she attended a Tri-County faith-based meeting recently to discuss immigration issues and she shares a “bridge” by telling us the comment that was made---“Kennett Square is doing it right.”
- Elaine Marnell “bridged” with the group by providing a box of mushrooms for everyone and taking a photo of the group, which will be included in the company newsletter.