POSITIVE PROXIMITY: Living in close quarters doesn't have to result in conflict and loss of privacy. A community can use proximity to its advantage to integrate the talents and skills of residents. We have it 'positive proximity' in Roanoke and can strengthen it.

> "First: there are **SPACES**, indoors and out, that naturally maximize the number of good interactions in a town. Generally these spaces have some individual character while still being open enough to accommodate the desires and interests of good citizens."

> "Second, there are PROJECTS that build a town's **IDENTITY**—socially, culturally, and /or historically—helping them become...themselves. These projects bring out the advantages of proximity by attracting the passions and skill sets of people who are like-minded in some ways but very different in others, cross-pollinating abilities and personalities. Citizens tend to see past their partisanship and biases when they're trying to accomplish something they can't do alone..."

> "Third...**TRANSLATION** is all of the acts of communication that open up a town to itself and the world...the ability of a place to incorporate every willing citizen's contributions, and in so doing, find ways to make life more interesting, welcome the outside world, and provide stability for those who need support."

CHAPTER SEVEN! Partnerships

★ The campus of Wesleyan Univ. in Middletown is described as a bubble. What bubbles do we have? (185)

★ The question we ask - How are we going to be citizens of this community? (186)

★ Jen Alexander: "Wesleyan needs to be really good at being Wesleyan. Middletown is not where you go to do your charities." But they have a stake and a voice. (188)

★ "The perpetual exodus..." "I have to make Middletown harder to leave." Kid City museum. Mark Masselli then started organizing around his interests...creating the things you want to have in your community.

★ Large industries can also have bubble—Pratt and Whitney. (189)

★ Strategies to engage including tours and orientation events in the town. Radio station interns. (190)

★ Professor Rob Rosenthal "knew the importance of committing oneself to living in a community. (192)

★ Center for Community Partnerships & Allbriton Center for the Study of Public Life

★ Service learning as real world issues and data. Helping the community and the students. Mutual investment. What is our community strategy to work across universities to connect with students and initiatives?

★ Capitols: Capital districts often a dead zone." How do our institutional buildings relate to the environment; build community spaces or hinder it?

★ Capital: *Bonding* social capital ties us to those like us. (Members helping other members of the same church.) *Bridging* social capital help groups work across differences, connect to those not like them. Robert Putnam (211)

★ Our institutions are different, but they may have some of the same issues. How does Carilion approach its role as a primary employer, a neighborhood partner, and an economic development partner?

★ Governments are institutions. How does the city work as a partner to welcome creative ideas and collaborations from neighborhoods, individuals, organizations, and sectors?

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NEXT Session: Chapter 3 – **Conscious Bridgers**
RSO Green Room – 128 E. Campbell Ave., SE
Monday, **Dec. 4**– 6:30 gather, 7 PM conversation