

**Bonita J. Krempel-Portier, D.O.**  
*Emmitsburg Osteopathic Primary Care Center, Inc.*  
*Working Together Towards Health*  
P: (301) 447-3310 F: (301) 447-5851 FEIN 52-2179848

[www.eopcc.com](http://www.eopcc.com)

*P.O. Box 1219*  
*121-123 West Main Street,*  
*Emmitsburg, MD 21727*

### **Newsletter June 2006**

Dear supporters of Emmitsburg Osteopathic Primary Care Center,  
What an amazing 6 months we have had:

On Tuesday, December 27, after recruiting Bill and Phil Portier to spend their Christmas Holiday in the rain to finish moving the charts and cabinets to our new location in Emmitsburg, while Kristin Harbaugh and her mother Judy Harbaugh transformed 2000 charts on the floor and supplies in every form of disarrangement into an ordered office, we were able to cut the ribbon and receive our first patients at our new location. It was becoming new again, starting over again. It took time, hard work, hope and courage. It resulted in extreme fatigue and exhaustion, one broken foot from a temporarily flying file cabinet, and a mostly ready, very eager EOPCC staff. The patients enjoyed cake and cookies made by Phyllis Green and Mark Krempel. One patient said he felt better just sitting in the waiting room—our exact hope.

On Sunday, January 22, 2006, over 100 well-wishers came to our open house. Bishop Kevin Rhoades of Harrisburg blessed every nook and cranny; Rev James Donohue, C.R. led the community in prayer, Kate Warthen, Donna Cuseo, Karen Adelsberger, Betty Meridith spread an eloquent table for all who were there. Phyllis Green's eloquent dedicated cake was a show stealer, Emmitsburg Jubilee graciously donated food, the Centerpiece was a bright and beautiful floral gift from Mount St. Mary's University President Thomas H, Powell and Dan Soller, V.P. Aloysius and Jane Krempel and JoAnne Hoover, Dr. Portier's parents and sister came from North Carolina and Ohio to help with the final preparations and to give their support. Balloons and happy hearts and good wishes made the day glorious. We have a photograph capture of January 22 in our waiting room—we owe it all to YOU!

On Friday, January 27, 2006, Bill O'Toole and Cathy Bodin, along with over 100 Scottish hearts and souls came together for the best Burn's Nite Celebration ever! There was dancing and music, reading and blessings, there was more haggis and good food than is possible to describe. The Graciousness of Mr. Jim Hance, providing us with JoAnn's Ballroom and John's fine Scottish cuisine with some new recipes from Ruth Richardson's

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secret files made the not so solemn feast a great delight. Mount St. Mary's University sponsored tables at Burns Nite. President Thomas H. Powell toasted the Lassies and presented an authentic Scottish toasting cup to Bill O'Toole for all future Burns Nite events.

On Thursday February 16, 2006, Thanks to the fine work and Grant Writing talent of Laura Portier-LaLumiere and our commitment to Emmisburg, The Community Foundation of Frederick County, MD, INC. awarded EOPCC \$2000.00 to enhance the waiting room with two computer learning stations. While I have often closed the systems down with unfinished art or games of solitaire, many times I notice that a waiting patient learned about medicine using the learning CD's provided by many of our pharmaceutical reps. Special thanks to Elizabeth Day, President of The Community Foundation of Frederick County and all those who make the Community Foundation possible. Through the Community Foundation's gifts we have been able to provide free EKG's to the uninsured and underinsured, provide accurate weights to those over 350 lbs, wheel all sizes of patients up and down the ramp, have surgical trays for our paps and procedures. "Working together towards health" we can realize our commitments.

On Wednesday March 1, 2006 MJ Parkolay, Acupuncturist, made 121-123 W. Main Street her new office location. This has been a boon for our patients, as well as for M J's previous patients. May her practice grow and prosper!

On Thursday May 25, 2006 we lost one of our best friends. William Francis Junker, friend, advisor, and our EOPCC bookkeeper succumbed to a long and harsh illness. Linda, Bill's wife, and I have known each other and have been great friends ever since we came to Emmitsburg over 25 years ago. We met at the F & M bank, getting set up in Town. By the time I graduated from WVSOM, Linda and Bill were already a family. Years later Linda and I envisioned a non-profit teaching medical practice. Linda both practical and visionary, eagerly became one of the founding Mothers of EOPCC. Bill was a computer whiz, was good at bookkeeping and offered his services to keep me and EOPCC on the straight and narrow. When we were solvent he glowed, when we were dangerously close to totaling out, Bill would call me late at night and lower the boom. Bill had a permanent part time job with us, except for all the nearly seven years of his service, he never got paid even a nickel. Through Bill Junker I learned about computers. We upgraded, defragged, added memory, and learned about viruses. EOPCC 's needs became so great that Bill turned the basement portion of his home into the bookkeeping office with computers, laser printers and filing cabinets. Eventually, Linda, Bill and Johnny built a special office in their basement just for EOPCC. At Bill and Linda's request many made donations to EOPCC in honor of Bill. We thank all who honored both Bill Junker and EOPCC. As far as we are concerned, the planet has never known a better bookkeeper than Bill Junker. Linda K. Junker, with all that has been put on her since Bill's death, has come to our rescue and has assumed the duties of Bookkeeper. Linda, Thank you so much for this gift!

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June 5, 2006, two young men appeared at EOPCC to begin work on the healing garden. Matthew Yohn and friend Steve dedicated two weeks of their knowledge, labor and sweat to remove weeds and begin the brick foundation for the healing garden. With great care they leveled the ground and laid the bricks from our 1885 building's failed chimneys, placed the patio set donated by Bonnie and Bill Portier, planted grass seed and did not wait long for the transforming rains. Soon beautiful Tiger Lilies donated by Hattie Eckenrode lined the garden. Our employees donated lunch hours to make sure the flowers were watered between the rains. The garden cannot have its final form until phase II of our building project is completed, but it is good to have such a promise of the future. By the way, we finally found Kermit Stambaugh who with sweet reluctance accepted his award for his service to EOPCC: you remember the picture of the guy on the roof taking down the crumbling chimney and sealing the roof on the old bulding!

July 7, 2006, Thanks to the beautiful words and love of daughter Laura Portier, Dr. Portier was awarded a \$5000.00 donation to Emmitsburg Osteopathic Primary Care Center from Proctor and Gamble's Ivory Gift of Gentle Touch program. Each year 5 women over the age of 55 are honored with donations to their favorite charity for their gift of gentle touch. It is with great excitement, humility and amazement and gratitude we look forward to this boost to EOPCC.

#### Our students

This last Mount St. Mary's University's Spring Semester brought EOPCC two science students who rotated with us for a credited internship. We are very excited about the Mount St. Mary's credited internships. Both Scott Feldman (4 credits) and Brittany Kostiha (3 credits) did outstanding work and expanded their technical skills impressively. We are a training site for Medical Assistants, two of these students graduated this semester: Jennifer and Kishawn Snowden. This Summer Jenna Stokes and Clare Herrick, College students set upon a career medicine, are rotating with us. Their compassion for those in all kinds of medical discomfort as well as keen intelligence already makes it an honor to teach them. Our former students are doing well. Martha Bowman, D.O. received an award in endocrinology, and has begun her residency in Internal Medicine. Lisa Zaleski, D.O. is working toward her fellowship in dermatology. How proud we are!

We at Emmitsburg Osteopathic reach out to you to help us continue our work, service and commitments as we work together towards the health of our community and patients.

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