

Record Citizen

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Covering Bristow and Creek County Oklahoma

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Dr. Richard Schafer opens clinic on Bristow's Main St.

By Fran Callaway

Dr. Richard Schafer is a new addition to the quality care medical team who work both in private practice and at the Bristow Memorial Hospital. Serving as a family physician from his clinic at 519 N. Main Street, he also serves as the Chief of Emergency Services at the hospital. There are four other ER doctors under his leadership.

This good-natured doctor has a laugh that makes you smile and gentleness for people that many other physicians could do well in trying to emulate. He's down to earth, up on the latest in medicine, and chose to come to Bristow at

the urging of Hospital Administrator, Jan Winter,

Dr. Schafer has an interesting background in medicine. He was a veterinarian who spent years treating animals. When he served in Viet Nam during the war there, he says he lived just like the TV series, "Mash." "It was crazy," he said, "and so busy we all had to laugh a lot just to release the tension." After spending years as a veterinarian, Dr. Schafer felt called to become a physician. So at the tender age of 50, he entered medical school at the OSU College of Osteopathic medicine, "I'm glad I made the change," Schafer said, He was pleased to note

that on their first day of practice here in Bristow on Monday, August 3, he saw nine patients. Dr. Schafer's office hours from now on will be Tuesday through Thursday, from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. "On Mondays I will be handling ER at the hospital," he explained, Schafer has a lovely wife, Beverly, and two grown sons. "One of our sons is a physician, practicing in Ardmore, and the other runs an automobile rental operation." he said, "As great believers in the work ethic it's nice to also know our sons are happy with their chosen professions," he said. Dr. Schafer is a

native of Tulsa, having graduated from Tulsa's Edison High School. After graduating from Westminster College in Missouri, he attended the OSU School of Veterinary Medicine. After many years of caring for our furry friends, Dr Schafer entered to the OSU School of Osteopathic Medicine, and became a physician. Dr. Schafer was working in western Oklahoma prior to being talked into coming to Bristow by the Hospital Administrator, Ms. Martin. He had just received an award as "The Best Rural Doctor of the Year,"

Dr. Schafer will be a great addition to the team of outstanding physicians we are blessed to have in Bristow and we are all proud to welcome him here. His clinic will be an asset to the Bristow medical team of doctors.

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