

Rallying for the Veterinarian

Dr. James Brester is a quiet, shy man with a veterinary practice in Bean Blossom, Ind. He is often misunderstood by his human clients who cannot always understand his mumbling. His animal patients, however, always seem to respond to his gentle touch.

The man is a legend to those who live in rural Brown County. He has a reputation for never giving up on a case, even those an animal's owner might consider hopeless. He takes on all types of patients. He has even been known to ride a runaway llama down a hill while administering a shot.

A strong indicator of this veterinarian's popularity came in February 2010, after the State of Indiana, acting on a consumer complaint, described Dr. Brester as a liability unfit to practice. The consumer's allegation was that in 2006 the veterinarian vaccinated a puppy for the parvo virus without testing the dog first.



The state's investigation brought supporters of Dr. Brester out in force. Hundreds signed petitions and thousands joined a Facebook campaign, all calling for him to be cleared. After five months of investigation, it happened. The attorney general recommended to the veterinary board that the complaint be dismissed.

There are thousands of tales of the veterinarian's compassion and kindness. He has an amazing list of clients – 32,000 and climbing. Yet he lives almost as simply as he did when he was a student. Dr. Brester says that he just loves his work, but hates to charge for it.

Dr. Brester is a servant – not only to beast, but to men and women who love their pets, need their work animals, and rely on healthy stock for their livelihood.

His greatest asset? His reputation, built by one animal, one owner, at a time.

That's true for us in Life Care, Century Park and Life Care at Home, charged with treating human beings. Our reputation is built one resident, one family, at a time.

Our greatest achievements are those that benefit others.

– Beecher Hunter