



DR. FINKES



DR. SHIVERS



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## VETS, PETS AND PALS

*Veterinarians and best friends Summer Lyn Shivers and Angie Finkes know how to take a bite out of life!*

*"The best kind of friend is the one you could sit on a porch with, never saying a word, and walk away feeling like that was the best conversation you've ever had." - Author Unknown*

That quote rings true whether you're talking about your best girlfriend or your best four-legged friend...both love you for who you are, both will listen to you and both will not judge you; and that is true for best friends and veterinarians Summer Lyn Shivers and Angie Finkes.



"We both work at Brawley Animal Hospital in Mooresville," Dr. Shivers said. "We love animals and get to help them everyday, and we also get to work together...it's the best of both worlds!"

Dr. Finkes agrees. "Summer and I both have a passion for helping animals. We both graduated from Kansas State University College of Veterinary Medicine in 2006 and after Summer moved to the Lake Norman area, I followed suit."

"I loved the area so much that I recruited Angie to come down and practice here as well," Summer recalls. "It has been so much fun being able to have a great job, work with my best friend and love the area I now call home."

Summer's children are Ernie, her 8-year-old adopted mixed breed, and Chili (affectionately referred to as "Bean"), a 3-year-old long-haired dachshund. "I've always loved animals and wanted to be a veterinarian since I was 7 years old," she said.

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Feeling blessed for her career, Summer said she never would have found such a passion for life and work had it not been for the love and support of her parents: "They were so supportive and were willing to do whatever it took to allow me to fulfill my dream of becoming a veterinarian."

On another side of the pet-lovers' world is Dr. Angie Finkes and her three cats Hogan, Ledger and Turner. "I love all animals but I do so adore my cats," Angie said. "I decided I wanted to be a veterinarian in the second grade...from that point on there was never a question or any other option."

Much of Angie's compassion and dedication come from her mother. "My mother is a constant inspiration," Angie said. "She was a single mom who started off as a teacher and climbed the ladder to superintendent, all the while showing such amazing poise and compassion for every person she met along the way."

Both doctors are sure of several things: they were meant to be veterinarians; they are passionate about their work and their families; and they have their priorities in order. "I think we both agree," Summer said, "that it's important to love what you do and appreciate everyone and everything around you."

Angie concurs: "For us there is nothing more rewarding than helping pets and their owners, valuing your family and friends, and just knowing that you are making the best decisions in your life each and every day... what can we say? Life is good!" 🐾