



**Rebecca Slivka, DVM
Northwood Animal Hospital**

Dr. Rebecca "Reba" Slivka is the owner of Northwood Animal Hospital, located in High Point, North Carolina. She grew up in nearby Danville, Virginia. She studied Animal Science at Virginia Tech and remained there to earn her DVM degree from The Virginia Maryland Regional College of Veterinary Medicine in

May, 2009. Dr. Slivka enjoys all aspects of veterinary medicine, with specific interests in medicine, nutrition and behavior. Outside of work she enjoys riding her paint horse Scout, running and cheering for the Virginia Tech Hokies. At home, she enjoys spending time with her husband, Jonathan, who is also the office manager at Northwood Animal Hospital. The rest of her furry family includes dogs named Hokie, Raina, Tarheel and Mr. Bojangles, plus a mouse, Maleficent.

Her dogs love going to dog parks, and Dr. Slivka hopes to see you soon at the new dog park coming to Northwood Animal Hospital this fall!

Why Every Pet Needs a Veterinarian

A new chapter is beginning in your life. You just moved out of your parent's house, found a decent job and moved to a new city. You finally feel like you're an adult and ready to take the next big step in life, adopting a pet! You decide to rescue a shelter cat and feel great for saving a life. You know you need to take the cat to the vet, but she came from the shelter already spayed and up to date on shots. Since she stays indoors and acts happy and healthy, the vet visit gets put on your to do list, but doesn't get checked off. Now fast forward a couple months. It's the weekend and you're ready to relax. After sleeping in on Saturday, you go to feed your kitty but she doesn't want to eat. Normally very playful, all she wants to do is sleep and is sneezing and congested. At this time you start to panic. You frantically try to research vets in your area, but the ones you call are either closed or are completely booked and unable to see a new patient. All you can find is the emergency clinic 30 minutes away. You know this could be tough financially having just incurred a lot of moving expenses, but you proceed having no other choice.

This is a scary situation, but one that you can avoid by having an established relationship with a veterinarian. When you acquire a new pet, you should take it to a vet right away for a wellness exam. But because you are not panicking about a sick pet, you can take some time to research local vet clinics and look at their websites, staff bios and online reviews in order to find one that best suits you. A welcoming vet clinic will even offer a tour of their hospital prior to joining their practice. Once you find a vet and take your pet in for the first appointment, the vet will be able to perform a complete nose to

tail examination. The vet will be able to pick up changes on the physical exam that you may not have noticed, such as a heart murmur, fleas, dental disease or potentially cancerous skin growths. After the physical exam, the vet will be able to make recommendations for your pet including vaccines needed, diet, dental care, as well as heartworm, flea and tick prevention. But the best part of the physical exam is that you have the vet's undivided attention! This is the time to get your money's worth and ask anything and everything about your pet, from nutrition and exercise to behavior and house breaking! All of us veterinarians went to school for many years, and have lots of knowledge we'd love to share with our clients, especially those who like to ask questions!

During the visit, vaccine records will be added to your pet's file so you will receive reminders when your pet is due. Some vets such as Northwood Animal Hospital offer services like E-pet health®, a pet portal database which allows you to view your pet's vaccines records and lab work results online anytime. E-pet health® also offers extensive educational videos and articles about pet health. No more fearing the worst after consulting Dr. Google. By the end of the visit, hopefully the receptionists, techs and Doctor will have gotten to know you and developed a fondness for your new pet. Going back to that Saturday morning when your pet is sick and you give your favorite vet a call, hopefully you will hear "It's a busy Saturday but we don't want your sweet kitty to wait until Monday. If you don't mind a little wait and you are patient with us, we will be glad to see you."

Northwood Animal Hospital invites you to—

Join us on Sunday October 4th, 12-3pm for our third annual Spooktacular!

For more details, visit our website at www.northwoodah.com.



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SPOOK-TACULAR!

Sun. Oct. 4th, Noon-3PM
(rain date Sun. Oct. 11th)



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ALSO FEATURING PET ADOPTIONS & LOCAL VENDORS

ALL PROCEEDS BENEFIT:
Guilford County Animal Shelter & Ruff Love Rescue

Looking for Vendors, Email Us at:
marquez@northwoodah.com

336-887-2606 Se habla Español
www.northwoodah.com

A full service veterinary practice
Mon-Fri: 8:00am - 6:00pm,
Sat: 8:00am - 12:00pm,
Sun: Closed