

When I was five, I told my dad I wanted to be a vegetarian. "Kalyn, I made hamburgers and you are going to eat yours." was his reply. "But Daddy, I saw a book in the book place about a lady who helped a puppy." I countered. Dad said, "Oh. You want to be a Veterinarian." Then Dad had to explain to me first how to say veterinarian and second what a veterinarian was. My parents thought that I would be just like any other kid that changed their mind about what they wanted to be hundreds of times. They expected me to want to be a dancer, then a firefighter, then a doctor. However, the opposite was my case. Ever since that day when I learned what a veterinarian was, it has been my goal to become one.

Throughout middle school and high school, I was frequently around and involved in the greyhound business. When my Dad started working for Kenneth I would go and tag along whenever I got the chance. I was like their little shadow, just absorbing every bit of information put in front of me. If I didn't have school, you could find me at the farm with my Dad helping out with whatever task I was given. Of course, at the time I was filling up water buckets, but to a middle school student that seemed like a lot to be helping with! A few years later I was finally allowed to watch Tom perform surgery on a dog. I remember my Dad, Kenneth and Tom betting on how long it took me to get sick. I surprised them all! Not only did I stay in the room for the whole procedure, but I asked if I could come to the next one too. Times like this, made me want to become a Veterinarian even more. When my Dad started his own greyhound business about five years ago, I jumped to the opportunity to be able to work with my Dad on his farm. I was so excited to be able to be around the environment even more. I actively worked with my

Dad and learned as much as I could. Now as a High School senior, I realize just how fortunate I was and am to be around a setting that only made me love the idea of being a veterinarian more.

When the time came to decide what colleges I wanted to apply to, A&M was a no-brainer for me. I knew that they offered a great Veterinary school, an excellent environment, and memories. As I searched through colleges, I came across Kansas State University, who also has a very prestigious Veterinary school. I visited their campus and learned that they also had a lot to offer. However, after really thinking about what I wanted to do, and about what each school offered, I realized that A&M was where I wanted to be. I chose A&M because I knew that I wanted to go to a school where I could pursue my dreams and be happy doing it. I want to be a part of something larger than myself and I know that A&M could offer me this and much more.