

Alumni of the Month – Dr. Amanda Tanner

Year of Graduation

2002

What have you done since graduating from Port Allegany High School?

After graduating from Port Allegany, I attended Westminster College in New Wilmington, Pa where I met a lot of good friends, learned about life away from McKean County, and most importantly learned to line dance which I continue to enjoy doing.

In 2006, I graduated with a B.S. degree in biology. I then attended veterinary school at Purdue University in West Lafayette, Indiana. In May of 2010, I graduated with a doctor of veterinary medicine degree after a lot of fun but really hard work. Shortly after graduating I was chosen to attend Cornell University's summer dairy institute where I learned I did not want to be a dairy exclusive vet and that I wanted to come back home. Ever since then I have worked at the H&S Pet Animal Hospital with Dr. Rumsey as a small animal veterinarian and I have my own large animal practice. I enjoy working with most species of animals and hope to remain in the area living on a dairy farm.

Where do you currently live?

Eldred, Pa on the farm I grew up on.

Who was your favorite teacher in high school? Why were they your favorite?

I enjoyed all of my teachers in high school. Most of them deserve a pat on the back for challenging me and teaching me that learning new things can be fun. There are the few I will never forget picking on like Mr. Scott and Mr. Caskey, but the one teacher who deserves my highest respect is Mr. Bill Potter. I remember sitting in his honors biology class the last week of my senior year of high school telling him I didn't want to attend college. He insisted I applied and thanks to him, I started out as a biology major and before I knew it, all of the rest of the steps to me becoming a veterinarian fell into place. If it wasn't for him I wouldn't be doing what I am today.

What is your fondest memory of Port Allegany High School?

My memories are all little things that make up the entire 6 years at Port Allegany High School. A typical day is the best memory. Starting with homeroom where we could share stories and possibly how to do last night's homework. Then a typical morning of classes including math and science and possibly study hall where I could help out in the library or study for a test. Then came lunch where the food was nothing to brag about but there was always a lot of laughing and friendship while a monitor was there ready to say things were getting out of hand. Then came the afternoon of perhaps English and history class and maybe another study hall that could be filled some days by chorus where you practiced so everyone would sound great for the big concert. Intermixed would be art classes, gym classes and even some shop classes and health. Evenings and weekends could also mean attending sporting events where you either participated or cheered on your fellow gator classmates. All of this time seemed wasted when you are a high school student but looking back as an adult you think that really wasn't that bad after all.

