



Photo by Annie Sakkab

Special moments

Romanian-born Angela Cozea with her eight-year-old dog Rocky. Cozea decided to retire early three years ago from her job as a Spanish teacher at the University of Toronto after being diagnosed with myeloma, a type of blood cancer. "There is unbound beauty and permanent terror above, and all you can do is to count on those who love you, in this case here, my dog, to help you along. For he is certainly fearless under the clouds, is he not? you even got that keenness in his gaze, which is a mighty thing to grasp."

2014 was the hottest year on record

By Sarra Lalonde

Greenhouse gases are on the rise, making 2014 the hottest year on record.

Studies show that 2014 was the hottest year recorded since 1850. It was also recorded that between 1997 and 2014, these years had the top 10 hottest years recorded.

"Greenhouse gases have been on the rise since 1820, due to the large impact industrializations have caused from the toxic fumes they produce," said William Grough, professor of climatology, department of physical and environmental sciences at the University of Toronto Scarborough.

Environment officials at Loyalist College also agree with this.

"It's my understanding that there are always natural variables at play,

but anthropogenic factors are at the root of the change we are currently experiencing. Our modern patterns of production and consumption, combined with a growing global population, of which a large piece is adopting westernized forms of consumption, is contributing to the current change in climate through the burning of fossil fuels, transportation, agricultural production, deforestation and so on," says Becky MacWhirter, sustainability co-ordinator at Loyalist College.

"There has been an upward trend in global average temperature for the past several decades, and this is due to the increase in GHG concentrations in the atmosphere, in turn a result of emissions (mostly of CO₂) from the use of fossil fuels."

Experts watching climate change say that the problem is not go-

ing away.

"This trend will continue for at least several more decades, so we will keep setting new records," said Danny Harvey, who is head of the department of geography at University of Toronto.

"A great way to start is by examining our daily activities and actively trying to reduce our impact; like carpooling, taking the bus or biking to reduce our transportation footprint," said Harvey.

MacWhirter says our diets are another source of emissions that we can control. We can try being a weekday vegetarian or going meatless on Mondays. In our homes, we can reduce our footprint and our bills by switching to LED light bulbs, turning down the heat a notch and by flicking the switch when we leave the room.

"Perhaps, most importantly, we can all speak up. Write your local councillor and your MP to say that this issue is important to you and demand action in the form of policies and programs that push our society in a more sustainable direction," MacWhirter says.

Grough explains what is causing the greenhouse gases to rise.

"Greenhouse gases have gone from 280 to 400 ppm because of combustion engines (in cars and factories). So it is not natural but man-made. We need to reduce greenhouse gases but reducing emissions. We can do this by developing more efficient engines or alternative technologies such as hybrid cars. Energy production can be switched from oil and gas to wind and solar," says Grough.

MacWhirter explains what

we can do here on campus.

"Here on campus, we are making strides in reducing our energy consumption through lighting retrofits and optimizing our HVAC system. And we've hosted events like the Commuter Change to encourage sustainable transportation. We plan to build on these efforts further in 2015," says MacWhirter.

"Also, people can focus on experiences as opposed to the accumulation of stuff. Practice conscious consumerism by examining what we buy and why we buy it. What are the hidden costs of the things we buy and at the end of the day, will these things really make us happier?" MacWhirter explains.

MacWhirter says if anyone has any suggestions to please send them to her at sustainability@loyalistic.on.ca.

Junior curlers head to nationals

By Annie Sakkab

Two homegrown junior curling team members from Belleville will represent the province for the first time in a national curling competition starting this weekend.

Loyalist students and twin brothers Mac and Morgan Calwell will be on the four-man team heading to the M&M Meats Canadian Junior Curling Championships in Corner Brook, Newfoundland, Jan. 24 to Feb. 1.

"It's a great honour and privilege for the Quinte Curling Club to have such talented juniors and for them to succeed at the Ontario level is awesome," said Tanya Visockis-Izzotti, vice-president of the Quinte Curling Club.

"It's also great for the little rocks that are starting curling to look up to the Calwell boys and say that, at their own club they have champions."

Inspired by their mother, who started curling in high school, 19-year-olds Mac and Morgan have been curling since the age of 6. They were coached by their parents until last year when coach Greg Pretty took over.

"But they still work with us every week on just basic skills and strategy," Mac said.

Team Calwell consists of Mac Calwell, Kurt Armstrong, Morgan Calwell and Matt Pretty playing skip, vice, second and lead respectively.

The team has been curling together since last November.

They won the Ontario junior title last week, when they beat Team Michaud from the Annandale Golf and Curling Club. It was the best round-robin game of the week, where they were leading 3-0 and winning the championship with an 8-2 win.



Photo by Annie Sakkab

MPP Todd Smith presenting the provincial curling champions Mac and Morgan Calwell from the Calwell team with pins in the Quinte Curling Club Tuesday. The Calwell team will be representing Ontario in the national competition held in Newfoundland from Jan. 24 to Feb 1.

"They're a really good team, they just had a little trouble in our last two games," Morgan said, speaking about Team Michaud.

"We went into the competition ranked I think number one or two. As the week went on, we got better and better. So we just came out and had all the confidence in the world."

When the Calwell team goes to Newfoundland for the national com-

petition, the games will be done in two pools of seven. Every province will have a team. In total, there are 14 teams each for men and women.

"It hasn't really hit me to be honest. The nerves will start when we get to the airport on Thursday night," said Morgan Calwell.

The team was sent off this week by MPP Todd Smith at the Quinte Curling Club with their own Ontario pins

and Quinte Curling pins.

"We're supporting the team by being here tonight. It's the whole membership that's behind them and hoping for their success," Visockis-Izzotti said.

The winning team at the national competition will become Team Canada at the World Junior Curling Championships held in Tallinn, Estonia, at the end of February.

Job fair helps students connect with employers

Forty employers registered to participate

By Sarah Robertson

Loyalist College is hosting its 18th annual job fair, Thursday, Feb. 5, between 10 a.m. and 1 p.m. in the gym.

Currently, there are over 40 employers registered who are looking to hire students anywhere from part-time to full-time, summer employment and temporary positions.

"We really try and reach a wide spectrum of employers so that depending on what the students are looking to do, they'll find opportunities," said Lyndsay Kerik, the employment and career advisor at Loyalist.

"This is one of their favourite fairs so year after year employers are always returning because they love our students. They love the faculty interactions and they feel the students are really prepared."

"We treat them like gold when they are here, so it also speaks to the fact that obviously they're finding what they need here if they keep coming back," she added.

The employers attending are specifically related to the programs that the college offers. Those businesses range from engineering firms to social service organizations.