



Photo by James Wood

Loyalist College payroll officer Kari-Lee Latta runs on the treadmill in the fitness centre of the school. Latta is a regular runner and exercises on her lunch breaks at the college. She looks forward to running in the upcoming Quinte West Healthy Half Marathon.

Spring open house Saturday

By Justin Chin

Loyalist College will be hosting the first of its kind Spring Open House this Saturday in the hopes of recruiting students to enrol in September.

This will be the first time the college is hosting an open house on a weekend in March.

In previous years, Loyalist would host "Loyalist Days" throughout a week with each day focused on a particular area of study.

"We are not sure how many people are coming," said Gretta Barnwell, recruitment officer at Loyalist College. "We hope the weather will cooperate."

Approximately 750 prospective students and their parents participated in the "Loyalist Days" last year.

There were people who couldn't make it throughout the week in the past, Barnwell said, so college officials decided to host a Saturday open house.

"We really wanted to give an opportunity for those people who are on March Break and have the chance to come, which is why we introduced a Saturday open house."

It provides an opportunity to allow students and parents to spend time at the college and speak to faculty and students about their different programs of interest in one day, which had happened over a span of the week, she added.

"There were students who are interested in media and in human studies. This way, they have the chance to speak to faculties from both areas on one day," said Barnwell.

Perspective students and parents will be able to speak with faculty and students about programs and their interests, as well as a tour of the digital media centre, skills centre and residence on Saturday from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

"This is a first for us. We'll see how it goes."

Students and guests will be able to speak to faculty about their program of interest at booths.

There will be another open house on April 26 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., where students and guests can attend program specific information sessions on their area of interest.

Half-marathon part of 40th birthday wish

By Solana Cain

With her 40th birthday around the corner, Kari-Lee Latta is lacing up to compete in the fifth-annual Quinte West Healthy Half Marathon in support of the Trenton Memorial Hospital Foundation.

"It's just something I like to do. I like to run," said Latta, who is a payroll officer at Loyalist College.

Latta has set a list of goals for what she wants to accomplish before her milestone birthday in August.

Included on that list are relay events: Doomsday Dash, Mud Hero and Tough Mudder.

But first, the Healthy Half-Marathon happening Sunday, April 27 in Trenton.

"I haven't registered yet but I'm going to," said Latta about the marathon, but she's been running three times a week for the last month in preparation.

"I run during lunchtime," said Latta, who keeps the same route, jogging off campus and up to the bridge at Moira and Sidney streets, and back.

'I probably run six to eight kilometres about twice a week here and then on Sundays I do my long runs, about 14 km.'

Runner Kari-Lee Latta

"I probably run six to eight kilometres about twice a week here and then on Sundays I do my long runs, about 14 km," she said.

Latta, who lives in Prince Edward County, prefers to run in the spring and fall.

"Rain is okay to run in," she said.

"Winter is a bit hard just because there are slick conditions that occur so ... you're more worried about injury, trying not to slip."

Latta has participated in track and field since she was a

child. She finds running to be a good stress reliever.

"It's a good time to reflect, and think about what I'm going to do for the rest of the day," she said.

Participants in the Healthy Half Marathon can walk or run the five-km, 10-km and half marathon, which start and finish at city hall in Trenton. "Currently, registrations are up from last year at this time," said Bojanna Louth, the hospital foundation's social events coordinator.

All proceeds raised go directly towards priority medical equipment.

Louth said this year's goal is \$20,000, and that last year the marathon raised a little more than \$18,000.

Runners can register for the marathon at www.raceroster.com. The fee is \$50 per entrant except if you're running the Hospital Mile, which is \$10, and the children's run is free.

In its first four years, the marathon has raised more than \$50,000 for the foundation.

The event starts at 9 a.m. on April 27.

Student vice-president brings wealth of experience to role

By Jonathan King

"I'm kind of a movie buff, so this is a hard question, my favourite movie..." laughed Jasmine Chapman, student vice president at Loyalist College. "I have to say Captain America. It's really nerdy, but whatever!"

She sat down Monday for a Pioneer interview - but only after student president Chantal Johnston had pre-approved the questions. Chapman had no comment about the approval process.

Chapman is a first-year radio broadcasting student and also the media, arts and design student leader here at Loyalist College. She's a recent transfer from the television and new media program, giving her two years of student experience at the college.

Students around the college may have noticed the red flyers on tables encouraging them to vote for Chapman in the upcoming elections, but students paid more attention when Chapman came visiting students with baked goods and

candy, but she was doing more than sweetening up students for the student elections.

"I think my investment into the campaign paid off. I mean I won, so it benefited a lot. It shows how hard I work in the campaign, it's how hard I'll work for the students," Chapman said. "But everyone loves food."

Chapman has been campaigning non-stop since the race started. She was always in the cafeteria giving out flyers and treats, and was the only candidate most people knew because she was always out interacting with students at pub nights on the campus, dean's meetings and operating booths for student government. When election days came, she was one of the few names many people recognized on the ballot.

"I just thought if I don't get my name out when they go to vote they won't vote for me," she said.

Chapman has plenty of experience in student politics, giving her an edge on the road to a vice-presidential position.

'I just thought if I don't get my name out when they go to vote they won't vote for me.'

Jasmine Chapman

Chapman has spent time as class leader in high school as well as student leader. Most recently she has held the position of media, arts and design leader.

"I think my experiences put me higher up on the scale and I'm willing to push. Most people can take no for an answer, but not me. I try to get it done, I try to contact the right people to push things forward," she explained. "I push for things that other people in my position haven't done, like I'm going to as many deans meetings to see what can be changed," she continued.

This year's student election had a

turnout of 348 ballots cast, or 13 per cent of Loyalists' student population of about 2670 students.

"I feel like students aren't sure when they can vote and they didn't know they could've voted the following week," Chapman said.

Chapman had tons of support for her campaign from friends and family, helping push her along her political career at Loyalist.

"Family was the major support, from my parents and little sister," Chapman smiled. "If every politician has a marketing team, my dad was my marketing team," she laughed.

"Without them I wouldn't have been able to do it myself. My mother was helping me bake and my sister wrapped the suckers and stickers. Friends would wear t-shirts with my name on them and talk about me," Chapman says. "People made comments about my parents helping me but I worked two or three jobs at a time and I really wanted it, and it is a paid position so I will be reimbursed

over time."

Most students forget that student government positions are paid only minimum wage and the hours vary so much week by week, it's challenging to put a solid number to hours worked or a monthly salary.

Student government members also need to balance their studies with their student government position, Chapman said she tackles this problem by being adamant with her organization and schedule, keeping her on track and rock solid in case of a bump on the political road.

"For me it's all scheduling and organization. It can be very difficult but manageable," she said.

What's in store for Chapman in her future as a student politician at Loyalist is still uncertain however, there's still a possibility of running for student president next year. She has the know-how and after a year of being vice-president, she has the experience under her belt.

Community music comes alive at Loyalist College

An interest in music only requirement for participants

By Julia Karpiuk

There's a void at Loyalist College.

About three years ago, Pam Fairbank recognized this void and decided to do something about it. For years, Fairbank, who works at Loyalist, recognized an interest in the arts that certain students had, specifically music.

"We always have lots of support for varsity sport," said Fairbank, "what if I want an opportunity that's not basketball."

As a result of Fairbank's effort, the Loyalist College Community Choir came.

The only qualifications to join are an interest in singing, "I wanted a true community choir," said Fairbank.

Every Wednesday night about 15 regulars gather in the Alumni Hall to share the gift of singing. The choir has an open door policy. It's a group that holds different spectrums of experience; anyone is welcome; students, workers at the college, alumni and friends of Loyalist.

Running the show musically is Reanda Smith, who is fresh out of Queen's University. She's been working with the choir for a year at only 23 and full of optimism, she's been bringing a new light to the LCC.

Originally from Oshawa, Smith now resides in Kingston. She's been working



File photo by James Wood

Conductor Reanda-Lee Smith conducts the choir in an exercise during a rehearsal of the Loyalist Choir in Alumni Hall.

with music all her life and is finding it a very rewarding experience to be working

with this choir. "I think it helps gives students that have

that love of singing and a passion for the arts an outlet...if there's no choir available

it's hard to get out and share your gift with people" pointed out Smith.

Her goal is to provide a fun and safe environment to explore music.

"Having a choir and being able to sing as a community really takes the pressure off of a lot of people, and that helps make it really just an experience of fun and an exciting collaborative rather than anxiety provoking doing it on your own."

Coming from a musical background, she believes that when in a choir, it is just as important to have fun but as well, to learn. Technique, music theory and the basics of reading music are all touched upon in practices.

"Not only do I want the members to just have fun and share their gift, I want them to be able to take away from it a better understanding of music in general."

The choir is thinking about fundraisers to stir awareness of the choir as well to help the finances.

Reanda is very optimistic about the future of the choir; she would love for the choir to become a staple at campus events and making the choir a recognizable feature of the college. Her experience has been rewarding thus far.

"I like seeing them come together... I've had the privilege to see people making new friends and people getting more comfortable with their singing voices ... I can see that their musical creativity wheels are starting to turn"

The choir meets on Wednesdays at 5:30-8:30 p.m. in Alumni Hall. Anyone is welcome.