

Spring 2016
March 16, 2016

The Whetstone

Montreal College Montreal, NC 28757



The Great Gate Debacle

By Tyler Lee

On February 24, a large truck ignored signs explicitly forbidding trucks to go through the gate; for whatever reason, the driver thought it wise to try and fit through anyway, though most find it a relatively simple task to drive around. The truck ultimately ended up running into the gate, causing possible structural damage. Soon after, the Town of Montreat decided that before opening the gate back up for use, the gate should undergo repairs; a roadblock was established and has yet to be removed.

Weeks have elapsed since the roadblock was first established; the gate is still set to be assessed and repaired soon. However, this isn't the only thing the Town of Montreat is dealing with right now, as they also have been facing a lawsuit on account of the potential construction of a new Montreat Town Hall on Florida Terrace, which continues to cause a stir among community members, with most voicing heavy opposition to this action.

"In addition to the plaintiffs, 110 Montreat taxpayers have contributed funds totaling \$30,000 to help cover the legal expenses required to stop the town hall being built on Florida Terrace," third-generation Montreat resident Peter Boggs said in an update provided on the Friends of Montreat Facebook page. "...the lawsuit, which has saved the town of Montreat hundreds of thousands of dollars, is not the action of a small group of disgruntled Montreaters but the action of 115 Montreaters who were outraged by the actions of the previous administration. These same concerned Montreat taxpayers have also, of course, helped pay for the town's legal fees since the town's insurance company was apparently not obliged to cover the cost of an illegal action by the Town."

Though the gate is the only issue that directly affects Montreat students, it is fascinating to see the controversy play out with the Town of Montreat. In the meantime, while Montreat community members continue to help fight the ongoing legal battle, the gate has remained closed.

In addition to this chaos, on March 7, another large truck blocked an entire section of the road near the gate, slowing many students who were off-campus at the time and needing to get to classes. "I drove into Black Mountain for what I thought would be a quick trip to Ingles," Montreat student Holden Hunter said. "On my way back, there was a truck blocking the whole road just before the gate. The truck had taken a wide turn and got stuck on the opposite side of the road. The police were directing traffic through the front yard of a nearby house. This was only a mild inconvenience, but trucks need to be more careful around the gate."

With spring break approaching, there will soon be far less traffic through the Montreat gate, allowing ample opportunity for the gate to be repaired. However, an exact time or date for the repairs to the gate are currently unknown. One thing is for sure: when the gate is finally fixed, if you're in doubt about whether you'll fit through, just go around.

Event Calendar

March 18

2:00 p.m. Baseball vs. Truett-McConnell College

2:00 p.m. Softball @ St. Andrews College

5:00 p.m. Track & Field competes in Charlotte 49ers Classic in Charlotte, NC

March 19

1:00 p.m. Baseball vs. Truett-McConnell College

1:00 p.m. Men's Lacrosse vs. Reinhardt University

5:00 p.m. Track & Field competes in Charlotte 49ers Classic in Charlotte, NC

March 20

3:00 p.m. Men's Lacrosse vs. Morehouse College

March 23

Baseball @ Morris College

March 25

1:00 p.m. Baseball @ Union College

March 26

1:00 p.m. Baseball @ Union College

March 28

1:00 p.m. Tennis @ Ferrum College

March 30

2:00 p.m. Baseball vs. North Greenville

2:00 p.m. Softball vs. Union College

5:00 p.m. Women's Lacrosse vs. Columbia College

March 31

2:00 p.m. Softball vs. Truett-McConnell College

6:00 p.m. Women's Lacrosse @ University of Pikeville

April 1

Asheville Coffee Crawl 2.0

2:00 p.m. Tennis vs. Point University

April 2

9:00 a.m. Track & Field competes in Wofford Terrier Relays

12:00 p.m. Tennis vs. Milligan College

1:00 p.m. Baseball vs. Tennessee Wesleyan College

1:00 p.m. Softball @ Point University

2:00 p.m. Men's Lacrosse vs. UNC-Greensboro

April 3

1:00 p.m. Baseball vs. Tennessee Wesleyan College

2:00 p.m. Softball @ Tennessee Wesleyan College

3:00 p.m. Women's Tennis @ Wesleyan College

April 4

Men's Golf play in AAC Spring Conference Championship in Locust Grove, GA

SALT: The Salt of the Earth

By Stephen Clark

Recently a new service program, SALT (the Student Action Leadership Team) has been revived under Chaplain David Taylor's auspices as a way to bring numerous students together in service to their community and Christ. Anyone can join SALT or participate in their service projects either by attending the weekly meeting at 6.30 p.m. every Thursday in the cafeteria led by David Taylor or by emailing him for details. As an example of the work SALT is already involved in, they have formed a partnership with local food-service organization Bounty & Soul, which accepts fresh produce and fruit donations from private donors and the Community Garden, to distribute it alongside lessons on healthy cooking.

These meetings should be considered active-idea sessions where one can suggest new service projects or find flexible opportunity hours for those with busy schedules. Chaplain Taylor has also intoned his vision of SALT not only as a vehicle for community-based service and charity, but also as a group dedicated to personal bonding and growth through interactive dialogues and scripture discussion. This approach will include bonding excises and games intertwined with theological and personal discussion of our identity in Christ, as Jesus calls us to be "the salt of the earth" in our righteousness.



9:30 a.m. Men's Tennis @ Brewton-Parker College

5:00 p.m. Women's Tennis @ Agnes Scott College

5:00 p.m. Women's Lacrosse @ University of the Cumberlands

April 5

Men's Golf play in AAC Spring Conference Championship in Locust Grove, GA

3:00 p.m. Softball @ Columbia College

April 6

1:00 p.m. Baseball @ University of the Cumberlands

2:00 p.m. Softball @ Bluefield College

5:00 p.m. Women's Lacrosse @ Reinhardt University

April 8

Spring Formal