

July, 1980

Gastonia
North Carolina

Firestone textiles COMPANY NEWS

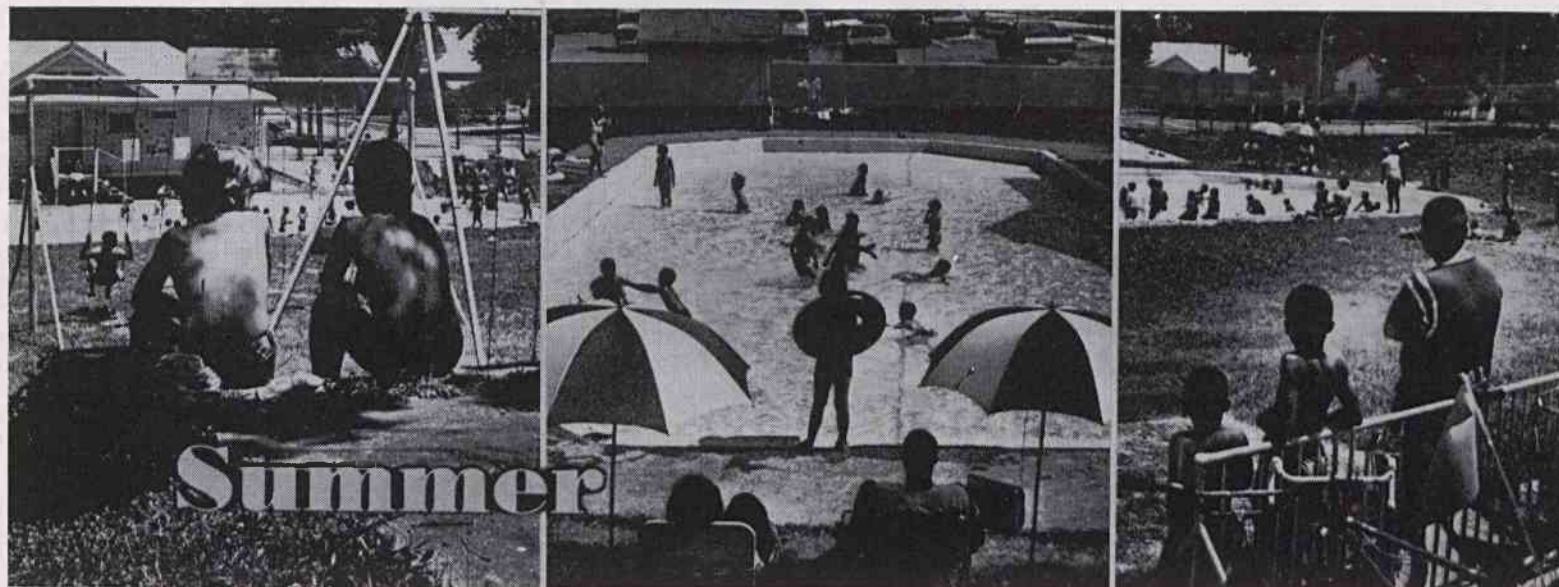
Bennettsville
South Carolina

Bowling Green, Kentucky

●● Summer season at Firestone Playground will last through Sept. 1. The company-owned playplace in front of the Gastonia textile plant is made available to youngsters as part of the City of Gastonia recreation & parks program.

Two City Recreation employees supervise the children at play. Hours are 8 A. M.-5 P. M., Mondays-Fridays; 10 A. M.-5 P. M., Saturdays; 1-5, Sundays.

Plant Maintenance looks after the playground year-round. The wading pool is the major attraction with West Gastonia children.



Safety: from one generation to another

E. W. PASSMORE, Safety Engineer
Firestone Textiles Gastonia

●● Safety at Firestone Textiles plants has been a well-honored tradition through the years, handed down from one working generation to another. The most recent recognition of this outstanding performance is the North Carolina Department of Labor Safety Award presented to people of the Gastonia plant for the 33rd consecutive year—for "outstanding accident-prevention."

That's quite an accomplishment, since only two other firms in the State have received this award all those 33 years. The efforts of every employee made the achievement possible. Now, it is the aim and responsibility of the present employee generation to keep up the tradition.

WHO IS responsible for your safety on the job? Some say, without thinking, that it's the safety engineer; others think it's the supervisor's responsibility mainly. But many people rightly know it's mostly their own individual responsibility for job safety. It's really a combination effort, people working with the safety

department and others involved in safe operation in a safe work place.

The Safety Engineer and Safety department are responsible for providing a safety and medical program for making safe-operating procedures work. The department inspects the plant for OSHA and other safety violations and hazards; samples air in certain areas inside the factory to guard against contaminants. The department also takes care of workers' compensation claims, provides supervisors with the latest safety information; holds safety meetings with supervisors.

The Medical department provides first-aid treatment, performs hearing tests on all employees once a year, does surveillance on those who work with certain chemicals; makes available safety glasses, ear protection, and orders prescription safety glasses.

THEN COMES the job of the supervisor to enforce the safety rules and report all unsafe conditions to Maintenance or Safety; to have

regular safety meetings with all people of the departments, to issue safety equipment.

With all these efforts to provide a safety program, it remains the responsibility of every employee to follow and practice all rules, regulations and policies.

So, safety is the responsibility of every person at work. But how about elsewhere, especially traveling about and at home? Surveys show that people are safer at work than they are any other place. Last year alone, there were more than a million home accidents—160,000 injuries from lawnmowers and 50,000 of that number requiring hospitalization.

Will you paint your house this summer or climb a tree to trim it? Last year, 87,760 people were injured using ladders. The home injury list could go on and on.

LET'S FINISH by pointing to some suggestions that, if put to use, can make for you a safer Summer.

More on page 4

Car-sales incentive

Almost 500 Firestone employees and retirees had received \$100 in late June for having contracted to buy a new motor vehicle through July 15, in the company's vehicles-sales incentive. The incentive offer, originally for the month of April only, was extended—retroactive to May 1 and going to mid-July.

The program applied to employees/retirees in the U. S., purchasing autos and station wagons produced in North America. The \$100 incentive was in addition to any rebates that applied to the auto manufacturers or individual dealers.

The offer applied to 1979 and 1980 vehicles by American Motors, Checker, Chrysler, Ford, General Motors and Volkswagen.

Every useful occupation gives ample opportunity for service. The happiest . . . are those who are making their jobs mean more than simply an endless routine of work and wages. The whole structure of business is based upon making useful things for others—this is service.

HARVEY S. FIRESTONE
Founder, The Firestone Tire & Rubber Company

'Look Up Gaston'

Dan Howe is among volunteers who will be interviewing residents during July-August in the Look Up Gaston program. The Firestone supervisor in Fabric Treating will compile in-category of the Research Task Force's project of gathering data on how local agencies, churches, businesses and civic organizations serve people of the area.

The Look Up Gaston Council is a division of the Gaston Chamber of Commerce charged

with determining problems in the county and seeking solutions to those problems.

James E. (Jim) Stanton was re-elected by a wide margin to the Office of Coroner, Marlboro County, S. C. in the June Democratic primary. Stanton was elected to his first term in 1976. He is the son of Ruby F. McEachin of Bennettsville-Firestone Main Office.

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Bumper stickers seen along the way ● **REPEAL INHIBITION!** And **LEGALIZE BLUEGRASS!**



Today and 43 Years Ago ● Plaque, the 33rd consecutive one, symbolized the North Carolina Department of Labor award to Firestone-Gastonia people, the latest recognition for safety. Framed certificate is one of the earliest awards (this one from Liberty Mutual Insurance Company) to Firestone Cotton Mills of Gastonia in May, 1937. It recorded 1,672,800 people-on-the-job hours without a lost-time accident, from Oct. 22, 1936 to April 17, 1937.