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Firestone

GASTONIA
NORTH CAROLINA

MAY • 1968

NEWS



Going Native IN THE Highlands

What goes on here? A skirl of fiddles, a plunking of banjos and the pulsing rhythm of clog-dancers. They're standard ingredients of many a highland fling coming into season this month in Carolina mountain country.

This Firestone News photo from last summer attempted to

catch some of the racy movement of the clog, native dance of the Southern Highlands.

People planning "shunpiking" trips from Camp Firestone at Bridgewater, and other Firestone travelers take note of two "specials" on the subject: Honeyland in the Highlands Square Dance Festival at Blowing Rock, May 15-18; Spring Funfest Square Dance Festival at Fontana, May 25-June 2. More travel notes on page 4.

Bennettsville Leadership Course

Seven persons of the Firestone Bennettsville plant in mid-April went into the second half of a leadership training course at Bennettsville High School.

The course, conducted under auspices of the Technical Education Center of Florence, S. C., features television instruction,

class discussion and workshop activity. The TV portion consists of lectures by Dr. George Heaton, well-known counselor in human relationships.

Off-Job Safety

IN
MAY

When it comes to life's hazards, there is no division between work shifts and the remainder of a 24-hour cycle.

"Something we all know, but sometimes forget," says R. E. Mack, plant safety manager.

"Safety has no quitting time," he goes on. "That's why living defensively in the face of life's hazards involves all our activities at work, at home, in recreation, and wherever else we go."

Because safety is an all-season part of life, the company is always in the process of building safety awareness at work as well as off the job.

TO STRESS the continuing fight against hazards, safety programs in all the company's U. S. plants emphasize the theme in a special effort during two months of the year — May and December.

Figures show a picture from past experience that in these two months have been concentrated the most hazards, so the heaviest toll of injury and fatalities in the broad areas of off-job activities — at home, travel, recreation, many more.

The record shows that a particular effort in any one time period of a year helps "sell" safety awareness. The

result: averted injury and preservation of life.

Many outdoor activities coming into season this month are a major reason for laying special stress on safety awareness and practice. Throughout May, special reminders for everyone on the job are aimed at strengthening the message of safe living away from the plant.

"We hope our people will 'take safety home' with them, to share with members of their families and everyone else they can," says Mr. Mack.

For 1967 Safety Performance 21st Award

FROM NC
DEPARTMENT
OF LABOR

Again, Firestone in Gastonia has kept a tradition of earning the annual award for industrial safety, presented by the North Carolina Department of Labor in conjunction with the Gastonia Chamber of Commerce.

The latest citation — the 21st one — came in April at a ceremony in Hunter Huss High School. It was the 20th annual industrial Safety Banquet, sponsored by the safety committee of the Gastonia Chamber of Commerce.

NC LABOR Commissioner Frank Crane made presentations to 194 Gaston firms. Raymond Mack, plant safety manager, received the award for the Firestone company. It is represented by an engraved bar attached to the plaque received last year (the 20th award).

This latest award recognizes safety performance here in 1967. In that year the plant

earned the distinction by setting a safety record of less than 50 per cent of the accident-frequency average for the textile industry in North Carolina.

The two other ways a firm can qualify: By a record of no disabling injuries, and through reducing by at least 40 per cent the injury frequency rate against the firm's rate of the year immediately preceding the one for which award is made.

Of the firms honored this year, Firestone led the list with its record of "most times receiving the award."

The first one goes back to 1947 when the State Labor Commission began making the

awards. A year later, when the C of C had its first recognition banquet here, the plant received its second award.

Having the honor bestowed upon it ever year since that time has built this distinction: Firestone shares the long record with only two other industries in North Carolina — R. J. Reynolds Tobacco Company and Western Electric Company.

Piedmont Scouts To Jamboree

Some 40,000 Boy Scouts from the 50 states will attend the Seventh National Boy Scouts of America Jamboree in July next year. The Piedmont Council, BSA, plans to send to the

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Anita Polston
Gastonia

Nancy Holloway
Gastonia

Mary Spencer
Gastonia

Brenda Stevens
Gastonia

Penny Robinson
Gastonia

Nancy Moore
Gastonia

LaVerne Robinson
Bennettsville

Merit Winners

Scholarship And Seven Merit Winners

Richard Dale Carringer of Gastonia is in the group of 39 outstanding high-school seniors across the nation this year winning a Firestone College Scholarship.

Six other Gastonia-area students and one from Bennettsville are among the 146 high-school seniors awarded a Certificate of Merit and a U. S. Savings Bond, in recognition of noteworthy school records. Scholarship and Merit winners are from 26 states.

Gastonia Merit winners: Nancy Elizabeth Holloway, Nancy Catherine Moore, Anita Lynne Polston, Penny Teresa Robinson, Mary Janice Spencer, Brenda Kay Stevens. **Bennettsville:** Orgie LaVerne Robinson.

Richard Carringer, winner of the full scholarship, is a senior at Ashley High School. The son of Mr. and Mrs. Willard Carringer, his mother works in production-scheduling here.

Planning a career in mechanical engineering, Richard

will attend NC State University at Raleigh. A member of National Honor Society in high school, he is in the lettermen's club and Fellowship of Christian Athletes. Richard is on the executive board of the Gastonia Youth Council on Civic Affairs, is an Explorer Scout, and is in the Order of DeMolay.

His Firestone scholarship represents a full grant worth up to \$1,750 per year toward tuition, fees, required text-

books and up to two-thirds of the room and board expense during the four years in college.

Grants were raised this year from the previous maximum of \$1,500 per year. The new limit of \$1,750 per year applies to this year's winners as well as the 97 previous winners who will be returning to colleges and universities next fall on Firestone scholarships.

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PLANT AND DIVISION

In The News

Firestone Synthetic Fibers and Textiles Company shared the spotlight with other industries and businesses in Gaston County through pages of the annual Progress Edition of The Gastonia Gazette, April 21.

The special issue had such Firestone features as an article on the plant and the division of which it is a part, with photos

of construction on the recently-completed fabricating unit here; also, a full-page display with an outside picture of the plant and a message in tribute to the company's many faithful employees here. On another page, there was a picture of Ann Hubbard on the job in spinning — representing the "now" of progress in textiles.

Quote Of The Month

'A single defect is one too many.'

David Coleman
ZD coordinator
Bennettsville plant