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Safety

Another Award For

Safety

For 23 consecutive years, an award for outstanding performance in safety at Firestone Textiles in Gastonia. How? Someone asked at the 22nd annual Gaston County Safety Awards Dinner meeting in April.

James B. Call, Firestone Textiles Company president, in recognition of good safety achievement last year.

• "Simply because of our constant attention to safety." Alvin V. Riley, division personnel manager, added:

• Our outstanding safety record can be attributed to the right attitude of management being transmitted all the way down the line of our operation, in support of a good injury-control program."

The 23rd Firestone award, jointly bestowed by the Gastonia Chamber of Commerce and the North Carolina Department of Labor, was presented by Labor Commissioner Frank Crane.

Mr. Crane made awards to around 200 Gaston County firms,

The 1970 Firestone award continues the record for Gaston County. The plant here and only two other industrial firms in North Carolina have received the award for 23 consecutive years.

The latest award is the 22nd to be presented Firestone at the Gastonia spring meeting. First of the long series was presented at Raleigh in 1947, a year before the annual awards meetings were begun locally.

The C of C-NC Department of Labor awards are symbolized by certificates, plaques, and inscribed bars attached to plaques for the "in between" years. The 1970 Firestone symbol is bar No. 3 added to the plaque for the

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Firestone NEWS

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• Snowy blossoms of a wayside pear tree—what brighter herald of Spring's return in the unceasing processional of seasons? Blooms in this Firestone News photograph represent the last "Spring performance" of the parent tree because, until recently, it stood off Vance Street in the path of Gas-

tonia's Garrison Boulevard. The almost-completed crosstown route linking east and west sections of the city, runs behind the Firestone installation and occupies one stretch of land which was a part of the original mill village acquired by the company in 1935.

Scholarship And 4 Merit Awards

One regular College Scholarship renewable up to four years, and four Certificates of Merit have been awarded to high-school seniors of the Gastonia area, in the Firestone company Scholarship Awards Program for 1970.

• Susan Gail Chastain of Gastonia is among 39 recipients throughout the country to receive a full scholarship. A second scholarship awarded in North Carolina went to Tony G. Waldrop of Columbus. He is a senior at Polk Central High School at Mill Springs. His father, H. C. Waldrop, works at the Spartanburg, S. C., Firestone mental products plant.

• Betsy Arrainer Goebel and Murphey Ann Moore, both of Gastonia; Prenella Neely of Dallas and Katherine Ann Shull of Bessemer City won a Certificate of Merit and a U.S. Savings Bond.

Miss Chastain is among the 39 outstanding high-school seniors in 18 states who this year won college scholarships in the company's educational-aid program. Raymond C. Firestone, company chairman, announced the awards April 17.

Scholarship and Certificate of

Merit winners, from 32 states, are all sons and daughters of Firestone employees or retired persons.

Scholarship grants are worth up to \$1,750 per year toward tuition, fees, required textbooks and up to two-thirds of the room and board expenses during the four years of college.

Scholarship recipients may attend any accredited college or university in the United States and pursue any desired course leading to a degree.

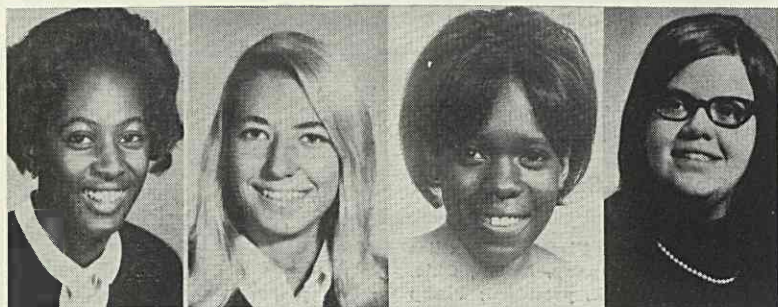
The four Gastonia-area Certificate of Merit winners are among 172 students honored nationwide for outstanding high-school achievement.

• Susan Chastain, 17, winner of the scholarship, and a senior

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SUSAN
GAIL
CHASTAIN



MURPHEY
MOORE

KATHERINE
ANN SHULL

PRENELLA
NEELY

BETSY
GOEBEL

YOUR IDEAS 'A Way To Speak, Share'

There's no better place of action than right on a person's job, when it comes to our world of competition, H. B. Palmer reminded supervisors at the Gastonia plant in April.

He was speaking of ideas and the company Suggestion System.

The manager of Firestone's Suggestion program noted that there's never been a richer market for ideas that will work betterment and progress in industry.

Reviewing the company's Suggestion program, Palmer recalled that Firestone began paying employees for ideas in 1918. Today, the program leads the rubber industry, although below

the national average for all industry.

"We know that management must have channels of communications with people on every job. And a suggestion system is one of the best channels," Palmer said.

"Some people are self-starters. Others need some priming to start the flow of ideas," he suggested, outlining ways to encourage broadest participation in the suggestion program.

Palmer noted that the Bennettsville plant had led the entire company in rate of suggestions submitted for five consecutive months.

"Someone 'primed the pump' well at Bennettsville," he added.

Palmer pointed out that the Suggestion Program is really a service function to the company and its people, adding:

"And it's one of the best ways for everybody to speak and to share—and earn cash for doing it, too."

'We Discover'

A Firestone Textiles Company process-products display was part of a "We Discover Gaston County" program which began last month at Rhyne School, Gastonia. Exhibits were in connection with a new unit of social studies intended to acquaint members of a special-education class with "the many wonderful things going on in our County," according to Thomas J. Jenkins, teacher of special education at Rhyne.

Beginning in April, one of several planned projects was an exhibit of items produced in Gaston County. The Firestone contribution was a display of photographs showing twisting and weaving operations; and a poster of materials samples of ply and cable tire cord, woven fabric and dip-treated fabric—all produced at the Gastonia Firestone plant.

Safety manager Raymond Mack arranged for the exhibit.

Play Season

"In business" schedule for Firestone Playground and its wading pool in front of the Gastonia plant is June 8 through August 7, a lot of West Gastonia youngsters will be glad to hear.

The company recreation facility accommodating children to age 12, is turned over each summer for operation as a part of the system of parks and playgrounds under the supervision of the City Recreation Department.

Children who play at the Firestone park are supervised by personnel who are employed by the City Recreation Department. The wading pool is main attraction. Other things to help long summer days pass enjoyably are swings, horseshoe pits, see-saws and ping-pong table. An added attraction is instruction in crafts during the season.

Daily playground schedule: Monday-Fridays — 9 a.m. - 6 p.m.; Saturdays, 9 a.m.-1 p.m.