

VGC

LEADERS



•• Gladys Baker (left) shared with Lucille Foy appreciation of camellias, jonquils, hepatica and other Spring blossoms at the March Meeting of Variety Garden Club of Firestone (Gastonia). Gladys is current president of the company-sponsored garden club; Lucille is immediate past president.

41 Rabies Clinics

GASTON COUNTY

Gaston County Health Department is sponsoring its annual Rabies Clinics in the county, April 30-May 11. All 41 clinics are scheduled in the late afternoons. The dates, time and places:

April 30: Cherryville City Hall, 5-5:45; Carpenter's Food Mart, 6-6:30; High Shoals School, 5-5:30; St. Paul's Lutheran Church, 5:40-6:15; Woodhill School, 6:30-7.

May 1: Alexis, 5-5:30; Stanley City Hall, 5:45-6:45; Old Lucia High School, 5-5:45; Mount Holly High School, 6-7.

May 2: Tuckaseegee Baptist Church, 5-5:30; Freewill Baptist Church on Cherry Street, 5:45-6:30; Brown town Wesleyan Church, 5-5:30; North Belmont School, 5:45-6:30.

May 3: Belmont Averfoyle Recreation Park, 5-5:45; Belmont Junior High School, 6-6:45; Family Grocery, Smyre, 5-5:45; Groves Gym, 6-6:30.

May 4: McAdenville Swimming Pool, 5-5:45; Holbrook Junior High School, 6-6:30; Cramerton High School, 5-5:30;

South Point Volunteer Fire Department, 5:45-6:30.

May 7: New Hope Presbyterian Church, 5-5:45; New Hope Fire Department, 6-6:30; Spencer Mountain Mill, 5:5-6:30; Warlick School at Ranlo, 5:45-6:30.

May 8: Bessemer City Central School, 5-6; Lincoln Junior High School, 6:15-6:45; Rhyne School, 5-6; Dallas City Hall, 6:15-7.

May 9: Peeden School, 5-5:45; Myrtle School, 6-6:45; Grier School, 5-5:45; Robinson School, 6-6:45.

May 10: Davis Park Superette, 5-5:45; South Gastonia School, 6-6:45; Bill's Superette, 5-5:45; Chapel Grove School, 6-6:45.

May 11: Firestone Playground, 5-5:45; Victory School, 6-6:45; Wray's Amoco Station on Highway 274, 5-5:30; Costner School, 5:45-6:45.

LFO • let's find out

• No-Fault Auto insurance is a big issue in the news these days. A lot of people don't understand just what no-fault insurance is. Would you help?

No-Fault auto insurance is a pretty controversial issue. Several states already have no-fault plans in effect. Some others are considering it.

Although these plans often differ from state to state, the principle of no-fault insurance is the same everywhere.

Under no-fault coverage, YOUR insurance company would pay promptly for medical expenses, lost wages and other economic losses up to specified limits.

The other driver's company would pay HIS economic losses, with no regard

as to who is at fault. Within the limits of a no-fault plan, it becomes unnecessary to determine who is at fault before compensations are made.

Those who favor no-fault auto insurance point out that it meets the consumer's need for prompt and certain payment of claims. Also, it can provide immediate relief from spiraling auto insurance costs.

Estimates for first-year savings range from 10 to 15 percent under some no-fault plans.

• Does your Social Security number change when you get married?

Never. The number stays the same, but in the case of a woman's marriage, her records need to be updated to indicate change in name. Mrs. Eula Wilson, plant payroll supervisor, says that in such case, you should notify either Payroll here or your local Social Security office as soon as possible.

Millions For Research & Development

•• Competition between the tire companies is keen. And research and development is one area where this competitive spirit is strongest.

In the rubber industry, "dramatic scientific breakthroughs" don't happen every day, but when they do they usually are well worth waiting for—especially for the companies that make the initial discoveries and their customers.

Firms such as the Firestone company spend millions of dollars each year on research programs to develop new and better products, which open up whole new markets and encourage growth.

Longer-wearing synthetic rubber, break-resistant plastics, paint latex and reinforced foam rubber are but a few of the products developed by Firestone researchers in the past two decades. All are products you see and use every day.

WITHOUT research, the guaranteed 40,000-mile tire would still be a dream instead of a reality. New-solution synthetic rubbers developed by Firestone have helped increase tire wear significantly and can be used to give tires additional wet traction.

"Solution rubber is the rubber of the future," says Dr. Glen Alliger, the company's research director.

"Because of the new-solution process, rubber can be tailor-made for almost any application, which is not always possible when other processes are used."

Firestone's polyisoprene was the first solution synthetic rubber and the first synthetic duplicate of natural rubber. It was followed by Diene and Dura-dene, large quantities of which are used in the manufacture of tires.

Diene is also blended into various plastics to give them high break resistance. Molded radio cabinets, telephone cases, power tools, sweepers and electric mixers are some of the common items that contain Diene.

LATEX revolutionized painting. Firestone was one of the first companies to develop a latex paint base. Company researchers were able to produce

a latex that not only provides good coverage but is freeze-resistant, easy to use and nearly odorless. Today, the company is a major supplier of latex for the paint industry.

Firestone also claims credit for development of a unique reinforced foam rubber which is used as carpet backing and in mattresses, seats and pads. The rubber is known for its high "gum" strength.

Alliger said Firestone scientists currently are working on a number of projects which could result in significant "breakthroughs." For competitive reasons, he does not elaborate.

"People immediately think of sales when they think of competition between the rubber companies. People tend to forget that research often has a direct impact on sales and is very competitive in its own right."

The nation's largest and oldest youth organization and the textile industry are joining forces to promote career exploration opportunities for Boy Scouts.

A cooperative program prepared by Boy Scouts of America and textile industry leaders was announced recently.

The new project centers around the revised Textile Merit badge pamphlet.

Scouts may earn the Merit badge in textiles by completing requirements under supervision of Merit Badge Counselors from the textile industry. Through this process, Scouts learn about the textile industry, its contribution to the nation's economy and career opportunities that it offers.

MINGLED WITH ALL OF

APRIL'S DELIGHTS

FOR FUN & ADVENTURE

Adventure is always in season. But for travel, April's a delight. The land's alive, and in "Firestone Textiles Country" (where the company has production plants), it's a world of flowers, sports events, festivals, exhibits, house-garden tours, entertainment. And all the scenic wonders and perennial attractions on a trip near home, an overnight or more extended vacation trip. Go. Enjoy.

Bluegrass Music, Easter Programs, Spring Tours • A major item of travel news is Carowinds, a family recreation complex which opened in late March, on NC-SC line a few miles south of Charlotte.

Carowinds is described as "legend, history and song; animals, thrilling rides. . . a place of days gone by, yet a place of Tomorrow." Carowinds Park is open weekends April and May, 10 a.m.-8 p.m.

Among major seasonal events in April: Fishing contest at Fontana, 15-28; annual Southern Pines Homes-Gardens Tour, 18; Old-Time Fiddlers Convention at Union Grove, 19-21, also Fiddlers and Bluegrass Festival, same community, 19-22; Moravian Easter Sunrise Service at Old Salem, 22; Pre-dawn Easter Program at Fields of the Wood, Murphy, 22; Spring Flower Hiking Week at Fontana, 23-27; Sports Car Hill Climb, Chimney Rock, 28-29.

A Rose Festival, Pageant and a Steam-Up • In South Carolina, Orangeburg's Rose Festival, April 27-29, is "Miss S.C. Queen of Roses" Beauty Pageant, plus country music, square-dancing, garden tours, a parade—and more.

Wagons to Wagener community, April 27-29,

celebration programs a beauty pageant, dances, a parade, flea market, barbecue and contests.

Cheraw has its Spring Festival, 27-29. Tours and arts-crafts exhibits. Included is the "Acres of Antiques" Steam-Up, a combination of antique steam, gas, kerosene, man, mule, air, dog and water-powered equipment exhibited and operating among thousands of cultivated blooming flowers. Spectacular!

Other S. C. events in April: Easter House Tours, Charleston, 21; Easter Sunrise Service at Charleston and Myrtle Beach, 22.

Fishing, Folksong, a Historic Inn • April's time in Kentucky for the annual Croppie (fishing) Festival on Lake Kentucky and Lake Barkley.

Year-round country-folk music shows are presented Saturdays at Danville, Defoe Hodgenville and Renfro Valley, Square-dancing year-round on Saturdays at Danville and Paducah.

Auto racing at state fairgrounds, Louisville, Fri.-Sat. nights, began March, continue through September. Craftsman Fair, Louisville, April 28-29.

Suggested places to visit in Kentucky: "Wonderful World of Wax" at Mammoth Cave Wax Museum, Cave City; historic Old Stagecoach Inn, with its "Well of Sweet Water", Guthrie.

Previewing May • N. C.: Camping Show, Fayetteville, 4-6; Ramp Convention, Waynesville, 6. S. C.: Hell Hole Swamp Festival, Jamestown, 4-6; Green Spring Festival, Charleston, 6. Ky.: Country Music Festival, Owingsville, 6; also May Day Festival, 12.

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