

JUNE
1974

Firestone

GASTONIA
NORTH CAROLINA

Textiles Company NEWS

BENNETTSVILLE • SOUTH CAROLINA

BOWLING GREEN • KENTUCKY

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Gaston 1974 Firestone Scouting Award

David Hall, who won a Firestone Merit Certificate in 1972 and 1973, is Gaston County's 1974 winner of the Raymond C. Firestone Award for achievement in Boy Scouts.

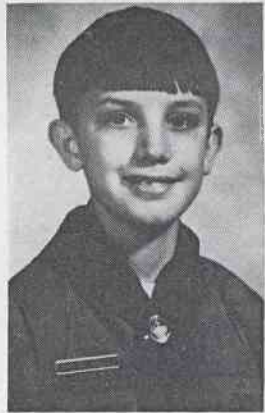
David, 14, son of John and Mrs. (Faye) Hall of Gastonia, is a Scout First Class, holds eight merit badges and is a member of Order of Arrow.

His Firestone award, the company's highest honor for scouting, was announced at the annual Gaston District of Piedmont Council Camporee in May.

The honor is represented by the prized silver medallion, a \$100 U.S. Savings Bond and \$32 toward expenses for a week at Schiele Scout Reservation at Tryon, N. C.

For many years the Gastonia Scout awards were presented at a Firestone spring banquet. This is the first time they were announced at the camporee.

DAVID
HALL
1974
RCF
Award



The Raymond C. Firestone Award, named for the company's board chairman, is presented at major Firestone locations to Boy Scouts who have

outstanding records in scouting, school, community and church work. Besides the top honor, there are each year a number of Merit Certificates presented.

David was chosen from a field of 25 applicants.

He is a member of Troop 6, has been active in scouting since age 8. He received all ranks in Cub Scouts, Wolf, Bear and Webelos, and all activity badges in Webelos. David has served as scribe and assistant patrol leader; is now patrol leader of Tiger Patrol which has been the troop's honor patrol for the past five months.

AS WINNER of a Firestone Merit Award twice, David attended a week of summer camp at Schiele Reservation in 1972 and 1973.

He is a member of First Baptist Church which sponsors his troop. David is active in Sunday school, is a member of the chapel choir, handbell choir, a recorder choir, and the church softball team.

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Heard in passing by: Loomfixer to weaver, "The fellow who still thinks that dirt's cheap, surely ain't checked the price of potting soil lately."

YMCA Drive Beyond Goal

Firestone people helped in volunteer leadership and in becoming members themselves, in the Gaston County YMCA spring membership campaign.

The effort, which sought 2,800 renewal-new members, went beyond—reaching 2,900.

The drive organized workers on a basketball theme. Factory manager Philip R. Williams was one of the two top managers of the Red and Blue divisions.

Thomas A. Grant, manager of Methods & Standards, was one of five coaches in the county. Richard A. Harrison, general foreman in TC Weaving; and Ralph Reep, supervisor in Quality Control, were captains.



For Lazy Days Of Summer

Firestone Playground 1974 season is June 17 through August 15. Hours: 9 a.m. to 6 p.m., Mondays through Fridays.

The Gastonia play facility, with its wading pool the main attraction, is in front of the Firestone plant. The company playground is each summer operated as a part of the City of Gastonia Recreation Department's system of parks and playgrounds. It accommodates children through age 12.

YOUNGSTERS who play at

the park in West Gastonia are under supervision of personnel who are employed by City Recreation.

Besides wading pool, there are see-saws, swings, and horseshoe pits. In recent years an added special feature is instruction in arts and crafts. Competition in various areas of play and participation selects winners at season's end. This is a part of the overall City Recreation program of activities.

This year, as in the past two seasons, there will be scheduled nature hikes and outings to points of interest in the Gastonia area.

\$550 For A Suggestion

William E. Hyatt at the Bennettsville Firestone plant received \$550 for his cost-savings suggestion recently. His winning idea involves a mechanical modification on one type of processing equipment. The suggestion in use results in a significant reduction in material waste.

The company's suggestion program pays employees a percentage of the savings from sug-

gestions, up to a maximum \$10,000. Suggestions that are not the money-saving type are paid for on a merit evaluation.

During the past year, 70 suggestion awards adding up to more than \$2,500 have been made at the Bennettsville plant. Coyt McLean, another employee, was recently awarded \$100 for an idea. In late 1973, Herdith Calhoun was awarded \$800 for a suggestion on cost-savings.

• William Hyatt (left) received suggestion payoff from Bennettsville plant manager E. E. Fuller.



TEXTILE LORE: COLOR & SPICE IN OUR SPEECH

Dyed in the wool. Smooth as silk. Soft as velvet. All wool and a yard wide. Getting down to brass tacks.

The Loom of Life. Spun; brocaded. These expressions are an inseparable part of everyday American speech. And they had their beginning in textiles as an art and an industry.

It's a good bet that textiles, more than any other art form or industry, has originated more words and expressions that have enriched the

English language, and other languages as well. Because throughout the world, textile terms and idioms have added crispness and color to the people's speech.

LIVING in high cotton, shuttle back and forth, you can't pull the wool over my eyes, gather wool (daydream), doff your hat, cotton up to somebody, spin a tall yarn.

These are but a few examples of how picturesque speech from textile origins have been woven and

brocaded into the English language.

A man meets his neighbor on a country road. "How're you, Henry?" he inquires, "Fair to middlin'" is Eb's reply. 'Middling' refers to the length of cotton staple.

OTHER examples of how textiles have enriched the language are such terms as spinster for unmarried women, calico horse, distaff for women in general, and homespun to describe something without frills and fancies, unrefined, homely.

Chewing the rag? It means to engage in inconsequential conversation. And spitting cotton refers to froth at the corner of the mouth when speaking fast.

When we get serious and specific, we are "getting down to brass tacks." What's that to do with textiles?

In the pioneer days of the American West, merchants sold dress material and other cloth from bolts,

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Outstanding Donors

Six Firestone Textiles people recently qualified as "big givers" of blood in the American Red Cross Gaston County Gallon Club. These Firestone donors represent a total 21 gallons blood donated in the RC regional program.

John Mitchell, working construction foreman in the Shop, led with 9 gallons donated. Lennell Keenum, plant waste-control manager; and Ralph Dalton, Shop mechanic, each have 4-gallon records. Bobby Ray Queen, Shop pipefitter, has 2 gallons 'to his credit.' Jane Dobbins, splicer reclamer in Preparation; and Bertha Jolly, weaver in Chafer, each have 1-gallon records.

'Unless We Do A Better Job...'

Business taking affirmative action—not just talking—is what's needed to restore public confidence in the American economic system.

"Unless we do a better job of making business understood and match our words with deeds, our ability to operate effectively and serve society will be dangerously impaired," said Raymond C. Firestone.

The board chairman of the Firestone company spoke before a group of business and political

leaders, including Kentucky Gov. Wendell Ford, May 21. Earlier, he attended a board of directors meeting at the Bowling Green Firestone Textiles Company plant.

OPINION POLLS show that the public attitude toward business and industry, especially larger corporations, has become increasingly negative, Firestone said.

"This presents a very serious problem for the economy as a

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'Gathering Wool & Spitting Cotton'