

FEBRUARY, 1976

Gastonia
North Carolina

Bennettsville
South Carolina

Bowling Green
Kentucky

Firestone

Textiles Company NEWS

MAKE SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATIONS BY . . .

March 1

Completed application forms and all required materials for the 1976 Firestone College Scholarship awards are due in the company's Akron headquarters by March 1. Winners will be announced by early May.

High school seniors of employee families who have planned to try for the awards will have taken the Scholastic Aptitude Test as of the last test day, January 24. The Firestone Scholarship code number 0080 must be used when requesting SAT scores reported to Firestone.

Application forms and booklets explaining the details of the 1976 Scholarship program have been available since early December, at plants and other company locations.

ELIGIBLE for the Scholarships are Firestone sons and daughters who are seniors and in the upper third of his or her class scholastically. Parents must be fulltime active employees or may be retired or deceased, and must have at least five years continuous company service as of January 1 this year. Earning ceiling for an employee parent

is \$1,833 per month with overtime.

A student is not eligible if a brother or sister has received a Firestone Scholarship.

Scholarship winners are chosen on the basis of high-school grades, subjects taken, rank in class, scores on SAT and other qualifications.

THE AWARDS go to students in various sections of the country on the basis of proportionate Firestone employment in these areas. In addition to the Scholarship winners each year, deserving applicants are selected to receive the Award of Merit and 10 shares of Firestone common stock.

From employee families of Firestone Textiles Company, last year's Scholarship winner was JoAnne Ruth Hull of Gastonia, in her first year at Davidson College.

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C of C Symposium On Enterprise

Philip R. Williams and three other panelists from the business community led in a high school-business symposium at the Gastonia Holiday Inn, January 22.

The Gastonia Firestone factory manager, with the other panelists and eight seniors from each of the high schools in Gaston county explored the topics

of Business and Government, Business and Competition, How Our Business System Operates, and Small Business Operation.

The symposium, sponsored by the Gaston Chamber of Commerce, was planned "to bring about in our young citizens a better understanding of the free-enterprise system and an appreciation for the benefits that all of us enjoy through it," said David Lindquist, chairman of the education committee of the C of C.

Kevlar Patterns

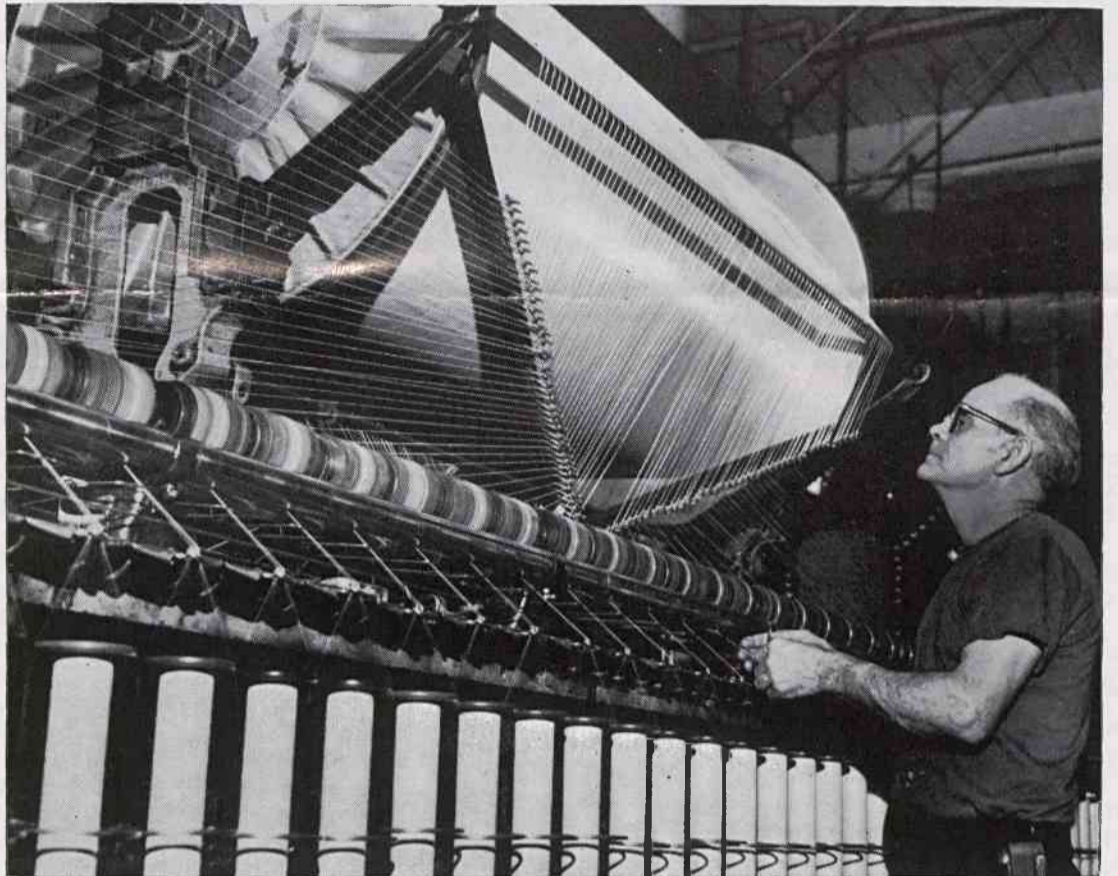
•• William Ted Hallbrook checks an end of Kevlar yarn being plied from a beam in TC Twisting at Gastonia. Hallbrook, a twister machine operator, has sons James and Dannie in TC Twisting; and daughter Cathy McAteer in TC Weaving (Splicing).

Kevlar, better known as Fiber B and one of the newer synthetic materials, is produced by DuPont. It is an aramid fiber, called this because of the nature of its

chemical structure. An aramid is a classification of synthetic filament yarn, as are (for example) polyester, nylon and fiberglass.

Among major 'plus' qualities of Kevlar are its high melting point, great resistance to aging, and very high tensile strength. It tests five times stronger than steel on a pound-for-pound basis.

The Gastonia plant twists, weaves and dip-treats a limited volume of Kevlar which goes mostly to Akron (O.) and Albany (Ga.) Firestone plants for special uses in tire building. Kevlar fabric production at Gastonia is currently limited by the initial cost of the material itself—three times that of nylon per pound.



UW Award Of Excellence

United Way of Gaston County presented an Award of Excellence to Firestone Textiles Company for its people's participation and contribution to the UW program during 1975.

Among other awards at the January 29 meeting, Albert A. Davis received the Harold Mercer Award, the presentation made by Ralph King, general factory manager of Firestone Textiles Company.

This recognition goes each year to the outgoing United Way president, taking note of leadership and contribution to the organization. It is sponsored by Firestone Textiles Company in memory of the late plant general manager and textile division president.

MR. MERCER was associated with Firestone in Gastonia for more than 35 years. In the early 1950s he helped to pioneer the Community Chest-United Way type of people-services in Gaston County, and was a leader in the ongoing program until his death in 1969. His widow, Mrs. Lucia Mercer, was at the awards meeting.

At the meeting, new officers were elected. Alvin V. Riley, Firestone divisional personnel manager, served on the nominating committee for the 1976-77

officers. Firestone plant controller Harry Laver worked on the budget committee, allocating funds for UW agencies during 1976.

CONTINUING on the UW board of directors is Firestone factory manager Philip R. Williams. Firestone Textiles Company president James B. Call is a past member of the executive committee and board of directors.

In the 1975 Fall, UW in-plant campaign, Firestone employees pledged \$41,098 toward the county goal of \$742,000, for funding help to 32 participating services during 1976.

Of Sandra & Her Family . . .

Sandra Fewell is a teletype operator at Firestone, Gastonia. When not on the teletype, she does office work — typing reports, correspondence, records, invoices.

After graduation from high school, Sandra attended Charlotte Business College and before coming to Firestone four years ago, took the MDTA program at Gaston College.

Sandra's family was the subject of a feature in a recent Sunday edition of The Gastonia Gazette. The story told of Sandra's father, Mose, 54; Mrs. Fewell (Beulah) and their seven children.

IT TOLD of Mr. and Mrs. Fewell's devotion to "making a good home and sending the children for an education." They moved from a farm near Dallas, N.C. to Cramerton 31 years ago. He worked at driving a truck for a textile mill; and did construction (was once buried alive in a cave-in but rescued with no ill effects).

After that, he has been in production jobs at two different



textile mills and carried on part-time jobs after hours. Over the past 31 years he has worked 16 hours a day six days a week, and never absent from work except two weeks on account of sickness.

Sandra and four of the other children went to college. All

finished high school. Wayne, the youngest, is a sophomore on a football scholarship at Virginia State College. Three are married: Pamela Ann Hooks, Durham; Mary Butler, Charlotte; Bertie Sephus, Dallas, Texas. Carolyn is in Durham and Barbara Jean in Baltimore, Md.

BG Basketball

The 1975-76 Firestone, Bowling Green, basketball season was well underway in January, with a company-sponsored team in the Industrial Basketball League.

Firestone's team was scheduled to play 14 games and then take part in a league tournament. The league is sponsored by the Warren County Parks & Recreation Department.