

Firestone

MAY • 1977

Textiles Company NEWS

Gastonia
North Carolina

Bennettsville
South Carolina

Bowling Green
Kentucky

Scholarship; Merit Winners

Three high school students—daughters of Firestone Textiles Company employees—are winners in The Firestone Tire & Rubber Company College Scholarship Awards program for 1977.

- Jacqueline Beth Wyatt won a full scholarship
- Sharon Wrenna Corbett and Linda Cheryl Owens received

Jacqueline Wyatt Scholarship



Below: Merit Winners



Linda Owens Sharon Corbett

Certificates of Merit and Firestone stock.

Miss Wyatt, of Route 4, Smiths Grove, Ky., is a senior at Warren East High School, Bowling Green. Her father, Travis C. Wyatt, works in the fabric-treating department at the Firestone Bowling Green plant.

Sharon Corbett, daughter of Mrs. Gail H. Corbett, is a senior at Hunter Huss High School, Gastonia. Her mother is a secretary in Scheduling at Firestone, Gastonia.

Linda Owens, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. John Owens, is a senior at Ashbrook High School, Gastonia. Her father is assistant purchasing agent for Firestone Textiles Company.

IN THIS YEAR'S Scholarship program, the company awarded 46 scholarships to outstanding high school students—sons and daughters of Firestone employees and retirees.

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•• This early-1900s scene of old Loray "Big Mill" at Gastonia is featured on a ceramic platter commemorative of the May 100th anniversary of Gastonia as a chartered municipality. Firestone Textiles 'archives' supplied the photo. Old Loray, later Manville-Jenckes, has been owned and operated as a Firestone fabric manufacturer since 1935.

Part Of Centennial Plate

Textile Hall

Construction is underway on a 68,900-sq. ft. addition to Textile Hall, Greenville, S.C. The new unit will bring the total area of exhibit complex to 512,000 sq. ft. Completion of the addition is set for February, 1978, in time to receive machinery displays in the American Textile Machinery Exhibition—International—1978, April 28-May 5.

Textile Hall Corporation is a non-profit, self-supporting organization founded in 1915 to serve the community and the textile industry.

Bowling Green • Nine persons completed five-year service records with Firestone Textiles Company in April: Carlos Ballard, Roger Burch, Jerry Dyer, David Jagers, Roger Harper, Bennie Kidwell, Frank Minton, Norris Qualls and Jerry Wright.



• Paul Neal, section supervisor in TC Weaving; and Maude Peeler, cloth burler in Preparation, with the latest award plaque showing years of safety performance at Gastonia.

Another Award For Safety

Firestone Textiles, Gastonia, has been recognized for achievement in industrial safety over a period of three decades. Latest of the awards series from Gaston County Chamber of Commerce and North Carolina Department of Labor came April 19.

NC Labor Commissioner John C. Brooks presented the award plaque to E. H. Passmore, Firestone safety engineer, at the annual C of C industrial awards dinner meeting.

This record is the longest-running among those presented in Gaston County. Firestone and one other firm are the only two "30-year" companies in North Carolina.

The Gastonia plant is among the 139 industrial and service firms in the county recognized for safety records in 1976. This year's Firestone award commemorates the Gastonia plant's 1976 record of operating 50 per cent or better below the injury frequency rate in the whole North Carolina textile industry.

The plant's rate for last year was 95 per cent below the State's average in textiles.

Other ways a firm is eligible for the NC Labor award is to have no loss of time resulting from on-job injuries, and for a company to improve its own established safety record.

First of the series of Department of Labor awards was made to Firestone in 1947, presented in Raleigh. The following year, the presentations started as a local event with the Chamber of Commerce.

Tennis League

A "ladder" tennis league, organized for Firestone Textiles Gastonia employees in April, began May 1 and will continue through September. Earl Cunningham, junior development engineer in Process & Product Development, is contact person for the league.

SAFETY Contest At Bowling Green

Clock-card employees at Firestone Bowling Green are participating in a SAFTY contest, with a \$50 cash prize awarded to each of three winners during the month.

To be eligible to win the money prizes, the person with the winning card must fulfill certain requirements such as no injuries during the contest month and no absences during the month.

The contest, played similar to Bingo, continues until there are three winners, the month ends, or to the point in the month there is a lost-time injury. A

lost-time injury automatically stops the contest and a new one would begin the following month until the contest period is over.

G. T. Shields, Bowling Green safety engineer, reminds all employees at the Gastonia, Bennettsville and Bowling Green plants:

Work Safely, Think Safety and "Take the Extra Step" for accident prevention. The "Take the Extra Step" for accident prevention. The "Take the Extra Step" slogan is the National Safety Council's theme during 1977.



STUDENTS VISITED

• Do you make tires here? No—just the cord fabric for tires and a few other products. What kinds of materials do you work with? Nylon, rayon, polyester, fiberglass, steelcord. What's this process? Twisting . . . weaving . . . rewinding . . . splicing. Why are the corners in the factory painted white?

To help us keep them clean. What's the average wage per hour for production people? A little more than \$4.

These were some of the questions from visiting students and the answers by employee tour guides, as 32 students of Cramerton Junior High School toured Firestone (Gastonia) in April. The visit was an activities trip in their occupations class at school, introducing them to work-career opportunities.