



Receives Degree

Albert L. Ellis, Bobbin Changer in Twisting, recently graduated from Gardner-Webb College with an overall grade average of B+.

Albert earned his B.S. Degree in Management while participating in Firestone's Tuition Refund Program. In addition to attending classes on a full-time basis, he worked full-time at Firestone and maintained a good work record and attendance. He also devotes two weekends per month to the

U.S. Army Reserve.

An employee with sixteen years service with Firestone, Albert plans to enter Graduate School in the Fall of 1984.

We look for great things from Albert in the future! CONGRATULATIONS FOR A JOB WELL DONE!

Any employee wishing information on Firestone's Tuition Refund Program should contact Johnette Mitchell, Personnel Dept.

SERVICE AWARDS ANNIVERSARIES

JUNE, 1983

35 YEARS

Twisting - **Miles T. Michaels**, Section Supervisor.

30 YEARS

Twisting - **Earl W. McMillan**, Twister Operator.

15 YEARS

Weaving - **Nancy M. Tignor**, Reweaver.

10 YEARS

Twisting - **Vickie D. Boone**, Trainee; **Dorothy M. Ashely**, Respooler.

5 YEARS

Twisting - **Douglas E. Drum**, Twister Operator; **Torrie L. Watkins**, Respooler; **Kevin D. Mauney**, Twister Operator; **Marlyn D. Wilker**, Beam & Yarn Handler.

Weaving - **Terry J. Stephens**, Loom Knotter/Style Changer; **Melinda M. Lunsford**, Loom Knotter/Style Changer.

JULY, 1983

35 YEARS

Cloth Room - **Ruby G. McAllister**, Cloth Burler.

30 YEARS

Twisting - **Fred C. Bruce**, Utex Twister Bobbin Changer; Weaving - **Julia R. Buchanan**, Loom Knotter.

25 YEARS

Twisting - **Louise Medlin**, Winder Operator.

15 YEARS

Prodn. Mgmt. - **Betty G. Summitt**, Secretary.

10 YEARS

Twisting - **Islah McCleave**, Elevator Operator; **Andrew Pogram**, Beam & Yarn Handler; **David G. Terry**, Section Supervisor; **Jessie R. Paysour**, Respooler Operator; **Helen L. Wiggins**, Beam Knotter.

Weaving - **Roy E. Spurling**, Weaver; Warehouse - **James E. Helms**, Warehouseman; Industrial Engineering - **Guido A. Martinelli**, Manager.

5 YEARS

Weaving - **Jack W. Kornea**, Fabric Baler.



TRULA BALL

Retirements

Retiring on July 1 with 35 years, 2 months service was **Trula B. Ball**, Rewinder Operator/Twisting.

Ruba A. Hanna, Inspector/Quality Control, retired August 1 with 41 years, 4 months service.

No Child Too Young For An Eye Problem

No child is too young for a vision problem. Eye and vision disorders affect nearly half a million preschool children—one in every twenty youngsters ages three through five—according to the National Society to Prevent Blindness (NSPB).

Although the ability to see is often taken for granted, it is a skill that children normally develop as they grow. However a child may be seeing blurred images or may be using only one eye, with no idea of how things "should" look, no means of comparison.

It is recommended that every child have an eye checkup between the ages of three and five, before school age. Disorders that prevent eyes from seeing clearly and developing normally can lead to life-long handicaps, even blindness, unless detected and treated in the early years.

Two common eye conditions that can hinder development are strabismus—lack of alignment between the two eyes, such as crossed eyes; and amblyopia, or lazy eye, in which the child unconsciously relies on one eye and ignores the other.

Amblyopia must be treated by age 6 if the condition is to be successfully corrected, or else it may lead to permanent vision impairment or even blindness in the ignored eye. Unlike crossed eyes or other alignment deviations, amblyopia is usually not apparent in appearance.

The surest way to find out if a youngster has normal eyes and sharp vision is through a professional eye examination. Next best is a vision screening, such as those provided as part of a general medical exam or in organized community screenings.

For those parents who cannot take their children to an eye doctor or obtain a vision screening, NSPB offers its Home Eye Tests for Preschoolers. This do-it-yourself kit comes complete with instructions for the parent to test the child and interpret the results at home.

For a pamphlet on vision problems in children, or to obtain a free Home Eye Test write: National Society to Prevent Blindness, 79 Madison Avenue, New York, N.Y. 10016.

From The Editor's Desk

Judy Zander

I recently received a much appreciated letter from **Exlice M. and Martha Juanita Fletcher**, former employees, retired since June 1, 1981. They wanted to tell all their Firestone friends "hello" and to send them a little news of two "old" retirees who are really enjoying life!

Both retired from the Shop, Exlice as a Roll Coverer with 10 yrs., 9 mos. service, and Juanita as a Balancing Machine Operator with 26 yrs., 5 mos. service.

They have been enjoying their retirement during the past two years and have taken several trips. They've been to Nashville, TN, Memphis, TN, The World's Fair in Knoxville, TN and later on visited EPCOT Center in Florida. Their favorite trip was the one to The World's Fair.

This summer, they've been busy

raising their garden and canning beans, okra, etc.

Both of them have been doing volunteer work at Gaston Memorial Hospital for the past 18 months. Juanita works as a hostess in the Emergency Room and Exlice works in the Messenger Service. They both feel very rewarded doing something for someone else. Exlice also keeps us informed of Firestone people who are hospitalized and for this, we give him a big THANKS!

Recently Exlice was awarded THE TEACHER OF THE YEAR TROPHY as teacher of the Men's Bible Class at Firestone Wesleyan Church where he has been a member for 37 years and a Sunday School teacher for 30 years.

We wish them continued good health and happiness in their retirement.



Exlice Fletcher presented THE TEACHER OF THE YEAR TROPHY. CONGRATULATIONS!

Disabled & Handicapped Able To Claim Tax Benefits

Many families with disabled and/or handicapped members are unaware of many Federal tax benefits available to them. Here are some typical questions, with answers that the Internal Revenue Service receive frequently:

Q. Overall, what kinds of expenses for medical care of special equipment are deductible for handicapped persons?

A. Generally, any unreimbursed expenses you incur for medical

care or equipment are deductible, and can be included with other medical expenses you would normally deduct.

Q. Are there any special expenses relating to the handicapped that could be deductible?

A. Yes, for instance, special language training recommended by a physician to correct dyslexia is allowable. Also, "patterning" exercises for a child who is mentally retarded, would be allowed, as would the costs of maintaining a child who is mentally ill at a special children's center.

Q. Are there any special tax breaks for the blind?

A. Yes, the blind can benefit from deductions and an extra personal exemption. They can deduct the difference between the cost of books, magazines, and braille editions. Expenses for the care, upkeep, and vet's expenses for a guide dog are allowable.

Q. What if the handicapped person must be transported to a doctor for treatment?

A. Transportation expenses to and from a qualified doctor are allowable. This transportation includes bus, taxi, plane, and train fares, as well as ambulance hired.

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Gastonia

Judy Zander, Editor

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