

cont. from page 14

## Continental finds rubber alternative

to agricultural zones of the Americas and Europe, the economic and carbon emissions benefits would be a significant boon to the tire industry.

This particular dandelion can thrive in a large part of the world. The growth cycle for the Russian dandelion is approximately one year. Conversely, the rubber tree has a long-life cycle, where the first harvest could start seven years after planting. Also of note, the dandelions Continental is working with were optimized without the use of genetic engineering. So how close is Continental to making tires produced from dandelions available to consumers? Dr. Peter Zmolek has some insight.

"Our target is within the next five to ten years," said Zmolek, director of research and development of passenger and light truck tires for Continental Tire the Americas. "In the summer of 2014, Taraxagum™ tires were produced and tested under summer and winter conditions on our proving grounds in Germany and Sweden. The results were very encouraging, and our continued development efforts are on track."

The initial tests run so far dem-

onstrate that the tire made from Taraxagum™ show an equivalent, "property profile" when compared to tires made from conventional natural rubber. While the potential is great, significant hurdles must be overcome before the use of this natural material can be fully utilized. For one, synchronizing the agronomy process (planting, growing and harvesting) to continually changing demand presents a significant challenge. Nevertheless, the team at Continental was recently able to extract several kilos of dandelion rubber from a small lab system to build the Taraxagum™ tires.

Construction on Continental's commercial vehicle tire plant in Clinton began this year. The production of commercial vehicle tires is scheduled to start by the end of 2019. In the first phase of the plant's life, 750,000 truck and bus tires will be produced annually. Continental has committed for a long-term investment totaling approximately \$1.4 billion and employing 2,500 people when the plant reaches full capacity in the next decade. This will be Continental's third tire plant in the United States.

## Sims awarded Hinds scholarship



Special to The Clinton Courier

The Hinds Community College Foundation recently recognized its 2017-18 scholarship recipients, donors and honorees. Among those recognized was Shamaree Sims of Clinton. Pictured (l to r) are Krystal Norwood, Kam Jones, both of Royse City, Texas, and Sims. Sims received the Kam Jones Scholarship.

## Search and rescue for community disasters course to be offered

Special to The Clinton Courier

Mississippians know all too well that a natural disaster can cause loss of life or property damage, the severity of which depends on the affected population's resilience, or ability to recover.

For residents, having a well thought out plan and understanding of basic disaster response protocols can positively impact their recovery and the community's recovery efforts as whole.

On August 3-4, the Clinton Fire Department (CFD) will host the FEMA Search and Rescue in Community Disasters course. The class is open to metro area residents, religious organizations, volunteer fire departments, youth organizations, public safety personnel, animal rescuers and any person interested in supporting disaster response in their community.

The minimum age to attend the class is 14, provided a responsible adult also attends and a consent form is signed by the child's parent or guardian.

The Search and Rescue in Community Disasters course provides training for individuals to survive a disaster and to safely conduct search and light rescue response, aiding their family and neighbors in the immediate aftermath of a natural catastrophe, technological

accident or human-caused incident.

The course is intended for members of the whole community and draws on information and lessons learned from a variety of disaster incidents, such as hurricanes, tornadoes, and man-made events, for discussion points.

This course is not intended for the professional responder; however, it is recommended as beneficial for the responder's family. The course also uses hands-on training to demonstrate best practices for effective search and light rescue, which can be used in both residential and commercial environments.

The course is a two-day twelve-hour class that will begin August 3, from 6 p.m. until 10 p.m. and continue on August 4 from 8 a.m. until 5 p.m. at Clinton's Brighton Park, located at 530 Brighton Park Drive.

**Instructions for registration and links to the FEMA SID registration can be found at [www.ClintonMS.org/CFDtraining](http://www.ClintonMS.org/CFDtraining).**

The course is free, but advance registration is required. The registration deadline is July 6.

To register, contact CFD Training Officer Tim Shanks at 601-925-1010 or by email at [tshanks@clintonms.org](mailto:tshanks@clintonms.org). Online registration is also available.

Registrants will need to attain a free FEMA SID number for participation in the class. Course participants may also receive 1.2 FEMA CE credits for course participation.

## A look back in history through Courier headlines

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June 16, 2015 ■ Volume 6, Number 12 ■ Clinton, Mississippi

### 26th annual July 4th event offers big entertainment and fun for all

By Janet S. Lee

3 years ago

June 18, 2013  
Volume 4, Number 12  
Clinton, Mississippi

The Clinton Courier

### Fisher wins mayoral election

By Janet S. Lee

In the general election June 4, Clinton voters overwhelmingly elected new



Baptist Church, was re-elected as Alderman-at-Large. He returns to the position as the senior member of the City Council. When asked about his re-election, he said, "On behalf of the Brabham family, I wish to thank everyone who participated in our Clinton election process. I am humbled and grateful

5 years ago

June 21, 2011  
Volume 2, Number 12  
Clinton, Mississippi

The Clinton Courier

### Grammy-winning "Shenandoah" to headline 4th of July Extravaganza

by Janet S. Lee



something to appeal to everyone. "This is one of our biggest events of the year. In fact, we start planning a year in advance to book quality enter-

7 years ago