

## — Nationals —

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But the purpose of the trip is the competition in a field where many state-title teams are STEM and charter schools.

"People don't believe me but the kids put their phones away, and the entire bus trip we are practicing," O'Shields said. "If we aren't stopping to see sights along the way, they spend the time preparing for competition."

The three days on the campus of Cornell will be the culmination of the entire year of practice and study. The students' work begins in August, but actually includes summer practices as well.

"These kids really make a commitment to the whole process. It's a marathon, it's not a sprint," O'Shields said.

And the trip is costly, so O'Shields has sent fundraising



request letters to everyone she can think of who might consider investing in the future.

"We have ZF as a sponsor and some others, and we are grateful for that," she said, "We're constantly looking for others because Science Olympiad is one of those things that is bounded only by the resources."

The national trip is the last event of the school year, which already included

fundraising for several invitationals and regional and state trips that require overnight stays. Other expenses include equipment and materials used for competition.

"These are the kids who are going to be leading in our future," O'Shields said. "These are the ones who will be inventing what we use and changing our world, finding cures for our diseases, and the Clinton Middle School Science Olympiad program committed years ago to compete and travel as a team and never let funding keep a student from participating."

Anyone who would like to support the CMS team as the middle school representative for South Carolina this year can send a check to Clinton Science Olympiad, c/o Clinton High School, 18132 Hwy. 72E, Clinton, South Carolina, 29325, Attn: Terri O'Shields.



Photo provided  
**SHAW ENOUGH** — Former South Carolina and NFL quarterback Connor Shaw, right, talks to a Laurens District High School student Wednesday during ILUNCH at the school.

## — Shaw —

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get to know your family, friends, classmates and teammates, the more opportunities you will have to help them — to serve them."

Shaw, who was voted the most popular Gamecock in a recent bracket-styled poll by

*The State* newspaper, had instant credibility with the students because of his success in football, but there was more to Shaw than the gridiron.

"When he walked in the gym, our kids knew who he was as soon as they heard the name," Walker said. "Like he

said at the end of his speech, if he was able to get one of those students to buy into what he was saying and believe what he was saying, then he did his job."

(Laurens County Advertiser Sports Editor Nick Herman contributed to this story.)

## PC, PCSP graduation ceremonies set for this Friday, Saturday

By Judith Brown  
Staff Writer

This week has been busy for staff and students at Presbyterian College as they prepare for the college's 136th Commencement exercise, where it expects to grant bachelor's degrees to undergraduates and to confer Doctor of Pharmacy degrees to students from the Presbyterian College School of Pharmacy.

The pharmacy school students were to receive their hoods and degrees Friday morning, then later the ROTC students were to be commis-



Teacher of the Year, Carissa Messer, was to be the keynote speaker for the Teacher Induction Ceremony for PC education majors, followed by a 6 p.m. Baccalaureate Service at Belk Auditorium.

As of Thursday afternoon, forecasters were calling for thunderstorms on Saturday when undergraduate graduation ceremonies were slated for 10 a.m. on the West Plaza of campus. In case of significant rain, a decision will be made at 6 a.m. Saturday morning whether or not the college would move the event indoors to Templeton Arena.

sioned as officers in the U.S. military at a 2 p.m. ceremony, also on Friday, May 9.

At 4 p.m. Friday in Neville Hall, the 2019 District 56

## Job fair set for Wednesday at Clinton Y

Community Outreach is hosting a job fair from 10 a.m.-3 p.m. Wednesday, May 15, at the Clinton Y.

The theme of the job fair is "Expand your horizon," and it will feature several agencies and guests offering financial and other information and tips to attendees.

Shirley Clark and Pam Kennedy of the Laurens County Branch of the

NAACP will be taking applications that will qualify elderly residents for home repairs (income statements are required).

Also, Mike Davis will have information on life insurance.

Nichole Ruff will advise on homebuying and credit repairs.

Alton Wilks will offer information on expungement.

Community Outreach will also offer free clothes. A transportation table will also be set up, offering transportation to get hires to and from work.

A resume and professional dress is required. For more information, contact Rosa Booker at 864-340-1057 or by email at rosa.booker05@gmail.com.

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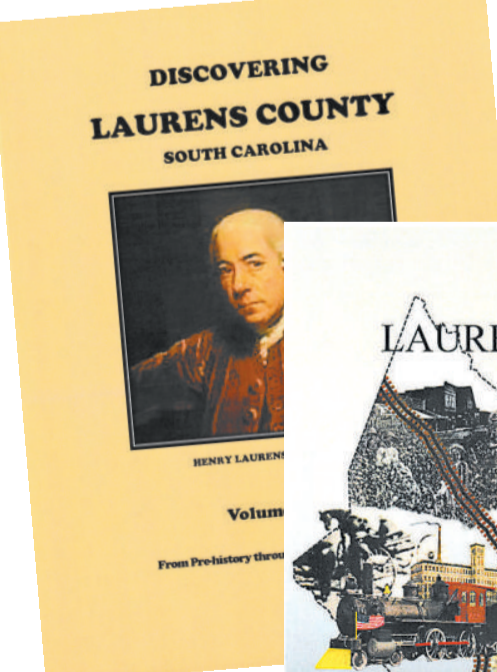
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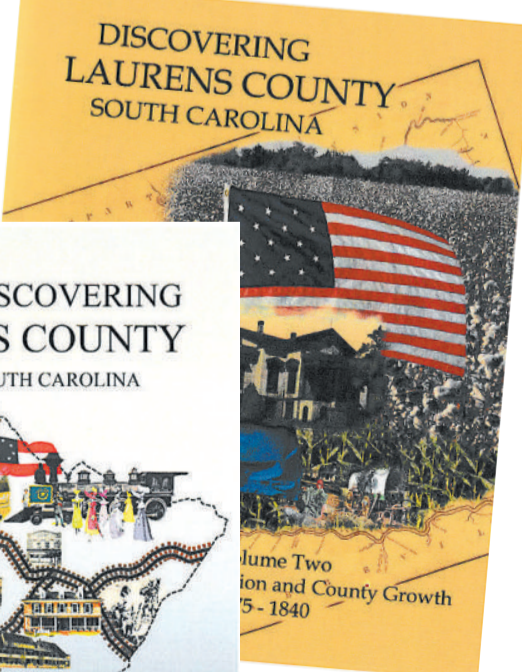
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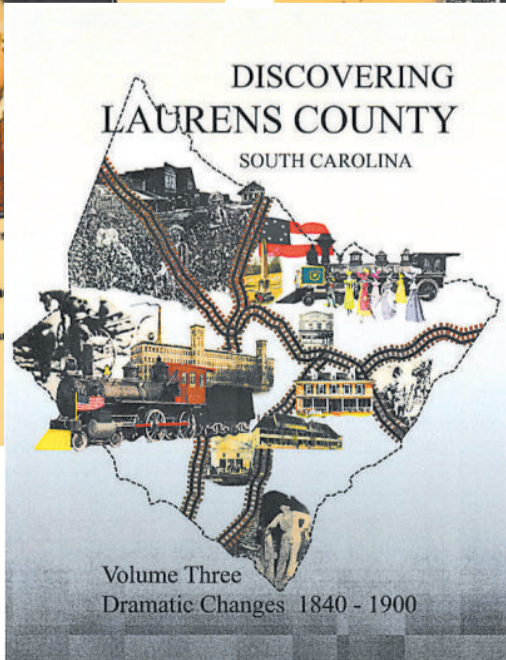
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