

'Green' champions honored

STAFF REPORTS

Greenville News 2/5/10

Upstate Forever has given ForeverGreen awards to a number of recipients.

The award winners are: Land conservation champion — Dianne Culbertson; clean water champion; Dr. Larry Dyck; sustainable communities champion — Mary Black Foundation; clear skies champion — city of Clemson; public servant of the year — Rep. Michael Pitts; volunteer of the year — Jennifer Kouyoumjian; extraordinary achievement — Furman University President Dr. David Shi.

Culbertson was honored for protecting her own properties and advocating for the protection of additional significant lands in her area. Culbertson and her son Chad conceived of the idea of the "Warrior Mountain Heritage Preserve Corridor" that would connect the 180-acre Timber Creek Farm that she owns with the Burns tract, an 800-acre farm.



GEORGE GARDNER / Staff

From left, State Rep. Michael Pitts, Clemson mayor Larry Abernathy, Mary Black Foundation President Phillip Belcher, Jennifer Kouyoumjian, Dr. David Shi, Dianne Culbertson and Dr. Larry Dyck display their awards.

Dyck was recognized for his work in advocating for the restoration of Twelve Mile River and the cleanup of PCB contamination in Lake Hartwell.

Mary Black Foundation was recognized for its commitment to improving the design, livability and quality of the built environment.

The city of Clemson was recognized for showing outstanding leadership on energy and climate change issues.

Pitts, a member of the South Carolina House of

Representatives representing District 14, was recognized for providing leadership on water quality issues in the region and state.

Kouyoumjian volunteered her talents in design and layout to assembling a collection of the best writings of Upstate Forever board and staff members.

Shi was recognized as a visionary leader for the sustainability movement in the United States and for integrating sustainability into every aspect of life on the Furman campus.