


 **ICAR plans building**

Thumbs Up to Clemson's International Center for Automotive Research for its new Center for Emerging Technologies that is designed to house start-up high-tech companies and overseas companies that want to establish themselves in the United States. The purpose of the center is to provide smaller spaces for companies that want to be at the research park but aren't willing to lease or build an entire building, according to a recent report in *The Greenville News*. Ground will be broken this spring on the \$11 million, 60,000-square-foot building that's being built with help from a \$3 million grant from the federal Economic Development Administration. Construction will take about a year. This facility will provide yet another way for South Carolina to nurture potential employers, and that will help the entire state.

 **Top law officers honored**


Thumbs Up to three Greenville law enforcement officers honored this week by the Rotary Club of Greenville for their outstanding service to the community. The Downtown Rotary Club each year recognizes a top officer with the Greenville Police Department, Greenville County Sheriff's Office and a federal law enforcement agency based in Greenville County. Sgt. Tammy Pomeroy was recognized for her work with the city police, Deputy Michael Jarvis was recognized for his work with the Sheriff's Office and Deputy Patrick Byars Pruitt was recognized for his work with the U.S. Marshals Service. Sgt. Pomeroy was recognized for countless hours devoted to recruiting new officers, training police officers and coordinating traffic enforcement for Greenville Drive games. Deputy Jarvis, who is fluent in Spanish, cleared more than half of the 104 cases assigned to him last year, and that was more than double the most recently released national clearance rate. Deputy Pruitt was in charge of a fugitive task force and led several high-profile investigations. Congratulations to all of these law enforcement officers who have devoted their lives to protecting other people and making our community safer.

 **Few gets a promotion**

Thumbs Up to Circuit Court Judge John Few on his election last week as the new chief judge for the South Carolina Court of Appeals. Few practiced law in Greenville until he was elected to the Circuit Court bench in 2000. He also teaches law, has led numerous continuing legal education seminars and is highly regarded in legal circles. Greenville should be proud that this judge will now head the state's appeals court.

 **ForeverGreen champs recognized**

Thumbs Up to a number of people and organizations who were recognized last week by Upstate Forever for their work with conservation and protecting the environment. Receiving awards were: land conservation champion, Dianne Culbertson; clean water champion, Dr. Larry Dyck; sustainable communities champion, the 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 David Shi. This was the first year for the ForeverGreen awards luncheon.

 **Sanford's talking too much**

Thumbs Down to Jenny Sanford for seizing a national soap box to reveal how she was hurt in her marriage to Gov. Mark Sanford, who soon will be her ex-husband. Mrs. Sanford is as media-savvy as they come, so she's got to understand that her juicy stories about the governor and their wacky marriage damage what little credibility he has left while they continue to draw negative attention to our state.