

### 10. Stephen Jones (14)



In 2005, Stephen Jones took the charge of guiding Bob Jones University when his father, Bob Jones III, resigned. This year, the leader of Green-

ville's 18th largest employer not only continued the work of growing young minds, but was also able to see another positive change emerge after its 80 years in Greenville - Bob Jones University earned full accreditation status, allowing its students to transfer credits toward graduate and high-level degrees.

### 11. Nancy Whitworth (18)



As the director of the City of Greenville's economic development group, Nancy Whitworth provides the female touch in a male-dominated

world of economic development. She has proven instrumental in filling RiverPlace with high-end restaurants, as well as in her work with South Financial, CU-ICAR and the "power corridor." From Laurens Road to downtown's growth, Whitworth seems to be able to not only see the potential that Greenville holds, but also make it happen.

### 12. Ned Sloan \*

He's sued the Phoenix Center. He's sued the state. He's sued the city, and the county. He's fought for better terms on gaining information from public entities. Although some may see him as a nuisance, one thing is definitive - Ned Sloan, retired contractor, "citizen activist" and "taxpayer watchdog," is influential. Though suits may be won or lost, he has challenged our local government at all levels, keeping us all a little straighter in line.

### 13. Bob Geolas \*



While we may have heard about Clemson University's International Center for Automotive Research (CU-ICAR) for years, this year,

we finally started seeing evidence of its growth. Under the leadership of Bob Geolas, Executive Director, ICAR was approved for \$2.3 million to help buy equipment for the Graduate Engineering Center, and we were assured that N.C.'s new addition of a wind tunnel won't necessarily nix one of our own. Even more, our kids may soon be able to study with the best in math, science and engineering, through a partnership between K-12 schools and ICAR.

### 14. Stewart Spinks (8)



We all know Stewart Spinks. It seems you can't go a mile without hearing him on the radio or seeing the bright yellow sign of one of his sta-

tions. But his influence comes not only from his growth in the Upstate, but also from his leadership in the areas of alternative fuels - a bubbling issue more and more, these days. As if that weren't enough, he also served as honorary Chair of Taste of the Nation, held the Spinx Charity Classic golf tournament, and served on the board of the Greenville Chamber.

### 15. Butch Kirven (13) & Jim Burns (13)



While they aren't as outspoken as some others on County Council, Butch

Kirven and Jim Burns are two County Council members that are making a huge difference in Greenville. As chairman, Kirven keeps building bridges with the city and other groups that we didn't think could even exist. As councilman, Burns does the same. Between these two, we can expect a lot more cooperation, work and growth in Greenville in the future.

### 16. Tom Barton (15)



With criticism flying left and right, Tom Barton managed to come through strong in the face of adversity. While the President of Greenville

Tech endured much criticism over school policies this year from the NAACP, Greenville Tech still managed to make two great steps this year - expansion of the Greenville Tech campus, with the new addition of dorm rooms for students; and a GED/employment readiness program to ensure students have the tools to continue learning and working in Greenville.

### 17. John Moore



Another force in the area of economic development, John Moore is continually searching for ways to improve upon what Greenville al-

ready holds. As Senior Vice President for Economic Development and Small Business at the Greater Greenville Chamber of Commerce, Moore has been influential in a number of projects throughout Greenville, and serves as a sounding board for many potential projects we may see soon.

### 18. George Fletcher (11)

Early this year, we were introduced to the "New Carolina" - South Carolina's Council on Competitiveness.