

GSA BUSINESS REPORT

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Swedish carmaker unveils its first S.C. car.
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Upstate will approach industrial recruitment with different expectations.
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Upstate officials say economy depends on innovation

By Teresa Cutlip
tcutlip@scbiznews.com

The Upstate can be somewhat particular about the companies it recruits to the area, according to economic developers from Greenville, Spartanburg and Anderson counties, who credit the evolution of the Upstate to BMW's decision to set up production in the region. But as the Upstate

has moved from a textile community to one with a diverse manufacturing base, the challenge now is to accept innovation and the opportunities it may present.

"We do have to look a little harder at capturing and embracing innovation, especially in the transportation area," said H.G. "Butch" Kirven Jr., chairman of the Greenville County Council. "We have an opportunity here through Clemson and CU-ICAR

and other assets to bring in companies that will be leaders in innovation of this new technology to bring value to our area — not only intellectual value, but product value and investments.

"And then we have to think larger and beyond just the typical jobs and investment to how we can integrate entrepreneurship and

See **INNOVATION**, Page 11 ▶



The BMW Manufacturing assembly line has kept workers busy for almost 25 years in Greer, as production has grown from a projected 2,000 workers to the current 10,000. (Photo/Provided)

**NOT
BACKING
DOWN**

**BMW Manufacturing reaffirms
commitment to Upstate expansion. PAGE 8**

MANUFACTURING & SUPPLY CHAIN REPORT



Samsung, Fujifilm among the newsmakers
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525
110 E Court St Ste 100
Greenville SC 29615-4904
The Hughes Agency LLC
Jennifer Spellman
1446913
43XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX
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Who loves America? South Carolina loves America

Patriotism isn't easy to define. Some may think it's wearing a red, white and blue swimsuit while shooting off fireworks on the Fourth of July; others might argue that sporting the stars and stripes as apparel violates the flag code.

We're not sure how to truly measure patriotism — after all, we took one of our most “patriotic” songs, *My Country 'Tis of Thee* (aka *America*), from the Brits — but WalletHub gave it a shot, ranking the states by military engagement (think active military and veterans) and civic engagement (voting rates, volunteering, Googling American flags).

South Carolina was ranked No. 4 on the list, because of our high military engagement. You can thank a veteran for that.



Most Patriotic States in America

1. Virginia
2. Alaska
3. Wyoming
4. **South Carolina**
5. Idaho

Most Veterans per Capita

1. Alaska
2. Montana
3. Virginia
4. Maine
5. **South Carolina**

Highest average number of military enlistees

1. Georgia
2. **South Carolina**
3. Alaska
4. Idaho
5. Texas



Victory Tower at Fort Jackson, is a military obstacle course designed to build confidence in new Army recruits. (Photo/Staff Sgt. Teddy Wade)

A LA CARTE



Photo/Provided

Furman University received a \$50,000 grant from the Bernard Osher Foundation to benefit nontraditional adult learners. Furman will offer Osher Re-entry Scholarships to eligible students enrolled in Furman's undergraduate evening studies program or undergraduate day program.



Photo/Provided

Five members of The Cliffs have received their Level One Sommelier certifications from the Court of Master Sommeliers. The team members are Haley Crump, Julius Kaiser and Jennifer Strom of The Cliffs Valley; Chelsea Williams of The Cliffs at Glassy; and Jon Benson of The Cliffs at Walnut Cove.



Photo/Provided

Clemson University's Wood Utilization and Design Institute has added California-based company Katerra as a Founding Member. Katerra donated \$50,000 toward the institute's mission to advance wood-based products.

ON THE RECORD

"We don't take everything that comes along now. We want companies who are going to raise the bar for us."

— David Britt, Spartanburg County Council member and chairman of the council's economic development committee.

