he Community Foundation's Board of Directors established the Richard C. and Vina L. Sauer Charitable Leadership Award in 1993, as a memorial to Mr. and Mrs. Sauer for their philanthropic support of our community. The 2000 Sauer Award recipient is Marcia Caserio.

Marcia Caserio is committed to making Henderson County a better place for all to live. The following are just a few of the many areas where she has provided leadership. She served as President of the Henderson County Medical Society Auxiliary and Vice President of the Western North Carolina Regional Medical Society Auxiliary. She was instrumental in the establishment of the Henderson County subsidiary of the North Carolina Health Education

Foundation. Marcia also served consecutive two-year terms as Vice President and President of the American Cancer Society and established a variety of fundraising projects which became a source of support for the Henderson County chapter. During her two years as President of United Way, she established the Ochlawaha Society which is responsible for 16% or more of their annual giving.

Following her term of office with United Way, Marcia became Vice President for Development and then served two years as President of the Community Foundation. She developed the highly successful fundraising event the Celebrity Chefs' Cuisine, which continues to be an annual sell-out. During her tenure, the Community Foundation's assets more than doubled.

As Vice President of the Board of the newly established Children and Family Resource Center, she has been instrumental in organizing and implementing fundraising and marketing plans. She has worked tirelessly to insure that the Center will have the necessary funds to efficiently and effectively serve the children and families of our community.

Through her leadership as Board Member and President, Pardee Hospital Foundation has generated over \$2.5 million in charitable gifts, all in the first four years of its existence. Annual events sponsored by the Pardee Foundation and spearheaded by Marcia are the "Tournament of Champions" which raises \$50,000 each year and the "Women Helping Women" movement, which has raised over \$80,000 in two years for screening and treatment of breast cancer for many women without insurance. Currently, she is leading our community's effort to expand the emergency department at Pardee Hospital.

Many other organizations in our community have benefited from Marcia's leadership. She served as President and as Development Chair of the Immaculata School Board, and she implemented the "Wings Society" to attract donors in support of the school. For over a decade she has served on the Kenmure Dinner Dance for the Arts Board and developed financial support of that event. In 1996 and 1997 Marcia served as Co-Chair of the fundraising committee to develop a Capital Plan for a multi-purpose cultural center in Henderson County. Over \$1 million for capital funds and \$1.5 million in endowed funds were identified.

Marcia has been recognized for her hard work. In 1997, she was chosen as the Volunteer Fundraiser of the Year by the National Society of Fundraising Executives of Western North Carolina.

With all of the time she has given to improving our community, her number one priority has always been her family. She is married to Dr. James Caserio and they have three children—Christina, Maria and Tony. Our community is a better place to live because of Marcia Caserio and we have all benefited from her compassion and generosity. In honor of Marcia Caserio, a \$1,500 grant will be divided equally between the Children and Family Resource Center and the Pardee Hospital Foundation for its adult care center.

Past Recipients

Frank W. Ewbank

Mr. Ewbank was a driving force behind the establishment of the Blue Ridge Community College Foundation, founding director of the Community Foundation and long-time member of the Hendersonville City and Henderson County School Boards.

Morris Kaplan

Mr. Kaplan served as Chairman of the Henderson County Library Board for more than three decades and is credited for the successful growth of the library system. He also implemented the shoe program for needy children through the Kiwanis Club and was a founding director of the Community Foundation.

Kenneth Youngblood

Mr. Youngblood contributed legal services to many local charities including, but not limited to, the Town of Fletcher, Pardee Hospital, Blue Ridge Community College Foundation, Henderson County Board of Education and the Community Foundation.

Kermit Edney

Mr. Edney served on the Board of Trustees of the Pardee Hospital for twelve years, serving as Chairman for three years. In addition to being one of the founding directors of the Community Foundation,

Mr. Edney served as its first President from 1982-1987. He was also the first Campaign Director for the United Fund, now known as United Way.

William Jamison

Mr. Jamison was named Administrator of Pardee Hospital in December of 1953. He was involved in the original construction of the hospital as well as a number of major expansions. In order to finance the construction and renovation projects without debt, he was very active in the fundraising efforts and continued his involvement and support after his retirement.

William F. Stokes, Jr.

Mr. Stokes provided crucial leadership to Blue Ridge Community Health Services, Inc. as they expanded from a seasonal migrant clinic to providing healthcare services for the working poor on a yearround basis. As President of the Blue Ridge Health Center Foundation Board, Mr. Stokes was also instrumental in the campaign to raise \$1.5 million to build a new dental center.

eadership is another form of philanthropy. Those who have received the Richard C. and Vina L. Sauer Charitable Leadership Award have contributed in more ways than we can list on one page. The above is a list of past recipients and a few of their contributions to our community.