

Honoring The Class of 2019

WALK OF FAME

*“Let us not forget our obligations and our gratitude to those sturdy pioneers, men and women of **daring**, of **courage**, of **resolution**, of **vision** who made possible for us the blessings and advantages we today enjoy.”* – Henderson County Poet Lila Ripley Barnwell



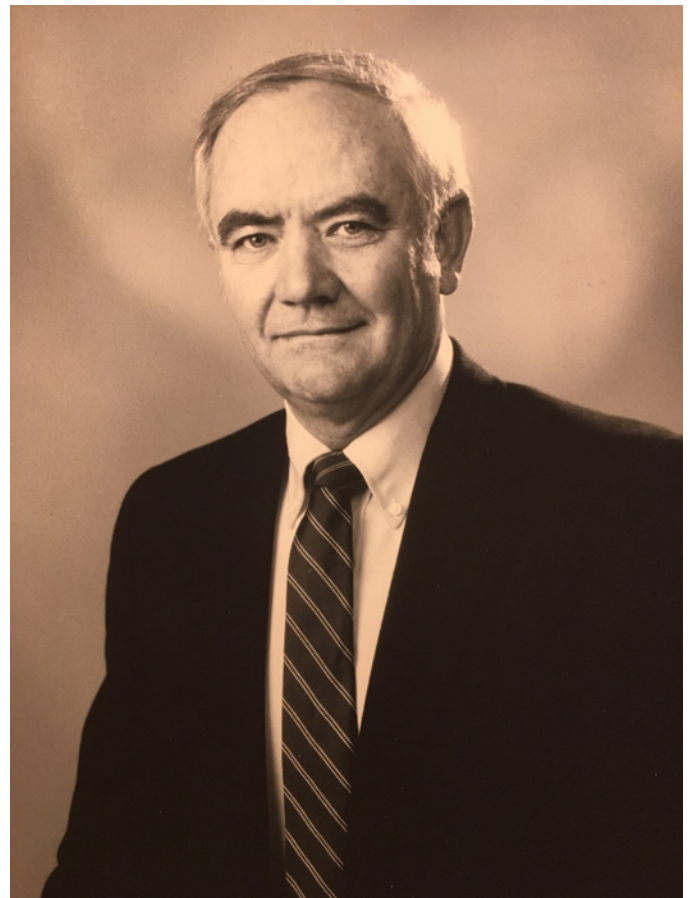


DANIEL GIBSON

... a local banker in Hendersonville, NC for decades. During this time, he was active with The Flat Rock Playhouse, the Lions Club, the American Legion, the Blue Ridge College Foundation, the Daniel Boone Council of Boy Scouts, the Hendersonville Symphony Orchestra and served as President of the Apple Festival and Chamber of Commerce. His lasting contribution to Henderson County was the instrumental role he played in the founding Carolina Village which today houses more than 250 residents.

HARLEY BLACKWELL

... was a leader in agriculture in Henderson County for decades. During his time as Superintendent of the Mountain Horticultural Crops research Station in Fletcher, Mr. Blackwell brought in industries such as Van Wingerden International, Bolton Greenhouses and Carolina Roses. His lasting contribution was bringing NCSU resources and services to Henderson County to assist with modern agricultural practices which continues to help farmers and consumers of farm products in western North Carolina.



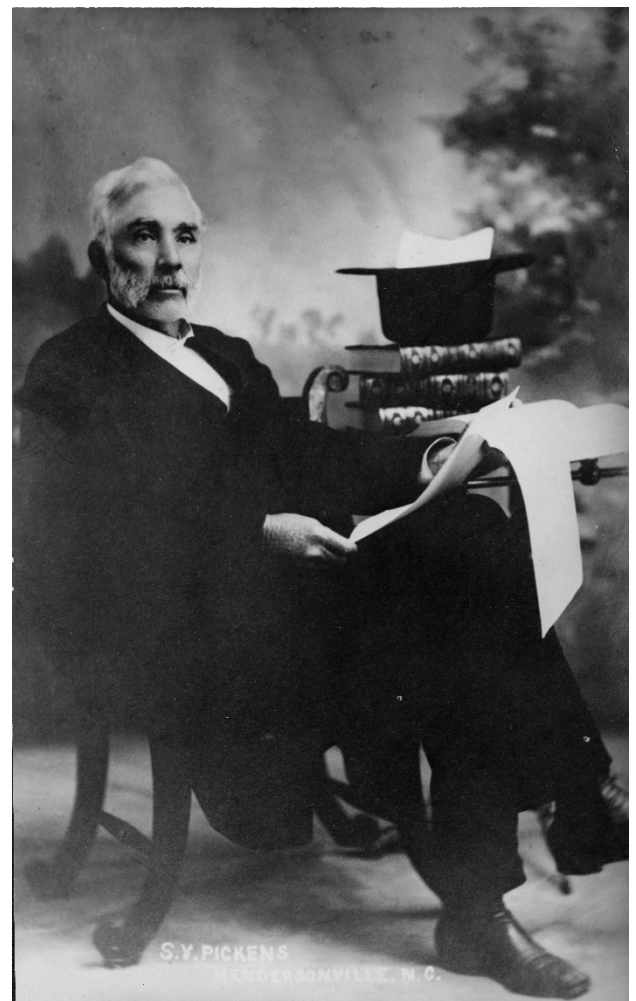


HUGH RANDALL

... was an educator who served as Superintendent of the Henderson County Public Schools. He also served in the Navy during World War II and was a local farmer. His lasting contribution to Henderson County were the facilities he constructed including Bruce Drysdale Elementary School, Hendersonville Middle School, and both the gymnasium and vocational buildings at Hendersonville High School, all of which are still in operation today. In addition, he instituted full time librarians in each school, high school assistant principals and migrant camp summer schools for children and adults.

COLONEL SIDNEY VANCE PICKENS

... fought as a member of the Confederate Army and later became an attorney in Hendersonville, NC. He founded the Hendersonville Street Car Company and the French Broad Steamboat Company. The steamboat, the Mountain Lily, was designed to link Hendersonville, Asheville and Brevard and could accommodate 100 passengers. These and other transportation projects were in advance of his times. His lasting contribution was the organization of the first Bar Association in North Carolina in 1883 from which the present association arose.





W.A. SMITH

... began his law practice in Hendersonville in 1876. He constructed Fifth Avenue at his own expense, opened the Laurel Park Railroad Company, known as the Dummy Line, which carried residents of Hendersonville down Fifth Avenue to a lake and dance pavilion which he had developed in Laurel Park. He was also instrumental in the building of the Toxaway Railway. His lasting contribution was his work in the development of Laurel Park.

GEORGE WILKINS, SR.

... was an educator and author in Hendersonville. He fought in both the Korean War and World War II. While he oversaw the integration of schools during the Civil Rights Movement and fought for laws to benefit handicapped students his lasting contribution was his fight to provide public kindergarten for all children which continues today in all 23 elementary schools in Henderson County.





ERLE STILLWELL

... was an architect and visionary in Hendersonville, NC. He was a leader in the consolidation of schools in Henderson County. His many architectural designs include the Colonial Revival home on the corner of west Fifth Avenue, Hendersonville High School and City Hall. His lasting contributions are the many churches, homes and banks which still stand in Hendersonville as well as statewide military hospitals, college buildings, manufacturing plants and over 70 movie theaters.

2018 Henderson County Walk of Fame Honorees



Louise Bailey

Mrs. Bailey was a local historian and author. She penned the column “Along the Ridges” for the Hendersonville Times News for 42 years. Her lasting contribution to Henderson County was leaving a recorded history of our community for generations to come.



Georgia Bonesteel

Mrs. Bonesteel is an artist and author on quilting. She is a member of the International Community of Quilters and host of her own television program “Lap Quilting” on North Carolina Public Television and PBS. Her lasting contribution to Henderson County includes giving recognition and promoting mountain arts and crafts.



Albert Browning Jr.

Mr. Browning began and ran a dairy farm known as Kalmia Dairy. He went on to become a successful builder and contractor in our community. His lasting contribution to Henderson County was his work to establish the Hendersonville Housing Authority which continues to assist those in need of housing.



Dr. Kenneth Cosgrove / Eleanor Cosgrove

Dr. Cosgrove practiced internal medicine with a specialty in heart disease for over 50 years. His lasting contribution in addition to his medical career included founding the first Pardee Intensive Care Facility, Four Seasons Hospice, Blue Ridge Community Health Center and Carolina Village Retirement Home.

Mrs. Cosgrove served as Director Emeritus of The Blue Ridge Community College Education Foundation. Her lasting contributions to Henderson County included raising support funds and in leading the change from the Henderson County Technical Institute to The Blue Ridge Community College. She was also instrumental in the formation of the Henderson County League of Woman Voters.



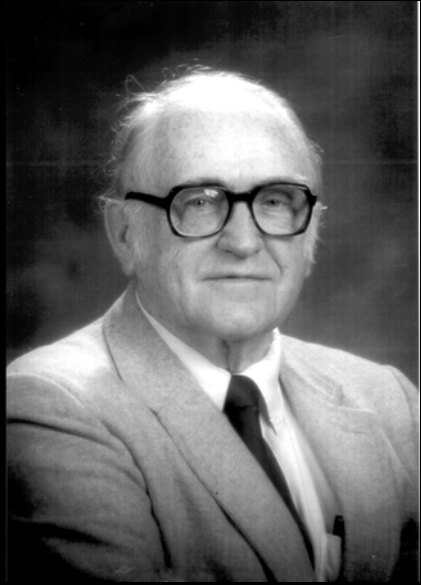
Albert Edwards

Mr. Edwards was Hendersonville's longest serving mayor from 1932-1969. During this time he led our community through the Depression and World War II. His lasting contribution to Henderson County was his support for the building of Pardee Hospital, the construction of Interstate 26, lighting for the city and the creation of an airport.



Grace Etheredge

Mrs. Etheredge was a local artist who taught classes and encouraged art in the Blue Ridge Mountains. Her lasting contribution to Henderson County was the founding of The Art League of Henderson County and helping to found the Opportunity House.



Frank Ewbank

Mr. Ewbank enlisted in the army in 1942 and after his military service ran a successful insurance business for many years. His lasting contribution was as a member of the Henderson County Board of Education. He also served as a founding trustee of Blue Ridge Community College which continues to educate students of Henderson County today.



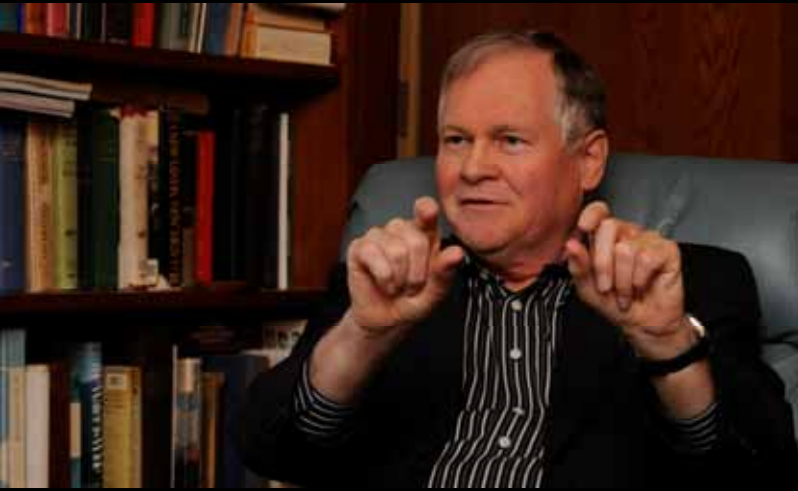
Robroy Farquhar

Mr. Farquhar was a local actor, director, and member of the Professional Actors Union in New York. His lasting contribution to Henderson County was the founding of The Flat Rock Playhouse, the State Theatre of North Carolina, which continues to train actors and entertain people today.



Josiah Johnson

Mr. Johnson dedicated his life to agriculture and truck farming. His lasting contribution to Henderson County was paving the way for future farmers to grow, sustain and market crops in our community and across the country.



Robert Morgan

Mr. Morgan is a local author who has written books of poetry, fiction, and non fiction which have brought national attention to our community. His lasting contribution to Henderson County is through his writings on the southern Appalachians, the Green River area and the Blue Ridge mountains. His literary works will influence generations to come.



Walk of Fame - Class of 2017



Theron Larnce Maybin for years represented the Henderson County Apple Growers at the NC State Fair. Elected several times to the Soil and Water Commission, he possessed

a wealth of knowledge in soil conservation techniques, clean water preservation and both vegetable and meat production. He taught farming techniques and advocated the need to preserve God's land, good work ethics, perseverance and a love of the land. Theron served in the US Army in Vietnam. Being a veteran, he realized the need for veterans to get the recognition they deserve. He secured and placed tombstones for veterans that didn't have a lasting memorial marker at their grave. **(Agriculture)**



R. Robert "Bob" Freeman owned and operated Freeman's Newsstand on Church Street between Fourth and Fifth Avenues for more than 60 years. Seldom seen without a black stogie

while at work, he bought the business in 1937 from Col. James McLaughlin. The business was a combination tobacco shop, candy store and newsstand, carrying newspapers from across the nation. He began his working in the grocery business at the former A&P. For more than 40 years, he was known as Mr. Republican, Mr. Newsstand, and Mr. Politics of Henderson County.

(Business)



James Mitchell Stokes inspired the gift of music, team work and discipline in hundreds of students throughout his 30 year career as a band director and music teacher. From 1968 to 1988, he directed

the Hendersonville High School Band program. He helped to found the Hendersonville Symphony, one of the nation's smallest thriving community orchestras. In 1991, he made another significant and noteworthy contribution to the community. The Hendersonville Community Band presented its first concert to the community on April 11, 1991. In 1987, Mr. Stokes was inducted into the NC Bandmasters Hall of Fame. **(Cultural Arts)**



William "Bill" McKay's ancestral roots go back to his grandfather, Captain Ellison Adger Smyth, a Confederate veteran who founded Balfour Mills (now Kimberly

Clark) and owned Connemara in Flat Rock, present home of the Carl Sandburg National Park. Bill McKay gave many hours to education, serving on the Henderson County Board of Education from 1961-1982. After WWII, Mr. McKay began a career in dairy, poultry, and apple farming. He left his mark on Henderson County through farming, banking, and the public schools system. **(Community Service)**

Walk of Fame - Class of 2017



Kermit Edney was a descendant of one of the earliest settlers in Henderson County, Asa Edney. A graduate of Edneyville High School and the UNC School of Radio, TV and Motion Pictures, Kermit was the host of “The Old Good Morning Man” heard on radio station

WHKP for half a century. On the 50th anniversary of WHKP, he was inducted into the NC Association of Broadcasters’ Hall of Fame. His areas of service are many. He was instrumental in founding the Community Foundation of Henderson County and the United Way. He served as president of the Chamber of Commerce, and the Hendersonville Merchants Association. Kermit was one of the original founders of the North Carolina Apple Festival. He was leader in the creation of Four Seasons Boulevard, in the development of downtown Hendersonville—its current beauty, its survival, and its serpentine design. **(Communications)**



Boyce A. Whitmire was elected to the NC House of Representatives in 1958 and to the State Senate in 1960. He was elected Mayor of Hendersonville, serving from 1969 through 1977. Mayor Whitmire served as a member of the Henderson County Board of Education

from April 14, 1965, until December 1, 1968. In addition, he served as trustee for Western Carolina University for 12 years. His passion for education was passed on to his family members, who have a combined 170 years of service to Henderson County children. His strong passion for the welfare of young people is evident in many of his endeavors. Mr. Whitmire established the Hendersonville Parks and Recreation Department. It has been said that during Whitmire's administration as mayor, he led the city into the modern era. A strong supporter of the arts, while serving in the NC State Senate, he was instrumental in having the Flat Rock Playhouse designated as the State Theater of NC (1961).

(Government)



James Junious Pilgrim believed in people and had a clear vision of a society which provided a good quality of life for all—regardless of their circumstances. Mr. Pilgrim was a catalyst for peaceful integration

of public schools in Henderson County and Hendersonville, during the Civil Rights movement in the mid-1960s. His wife Eva Robinson Pilgrim taught for more than 30 years. Together they were instrumental in improving the educational opportunities for many children. James Pilgrim ran James Pilgrim Funeral Home, starting in 1941. He has been called “a community pillar”. There wasn't anything he wouldn't do to help someone in need.

(Community Service)



Francis M. “Frank”

Coiner spent much time in the hallowed halls of the Henderson County Courthouse, whether it was in the basement scouring the deed books or up above in the courtroom arguing a case. He served the city he loved for almost 30 years as

city attorney and the people he cherished for over 50 years as an attorney. Attorney Coiner was a lover of history and the preserver of “evidence of yesterday.” He fought hard for the preservation of the historic courthouse and spoke eloquently on its behalf: “To destroy the old Courthouse would be to lessen our comprehension of what is meant by saying I am an American. Its demolition would lower a dark curtain, further separating us from an illustrious heritage. Insignificant? Small? A microcosm? Perhaps, but vastly important to this place and this people—and the preservation of our heritage.” **(Law)**

Walk of Fame - Class of 2017



James Steven Brown, MD, was 40 years old when he came to Hendersonville in 1906. By the time he celebrated his 92nd birthday on November 14, 1958, records show he had delivered 6,547 babies. He has been called the

“spirit” of Henderson County medicine. Dr. Brown truly lived for others, a doctor who never denied his patient. He lives on in the many lives of those he brought into the world. This God-fearing man never refused a house call based on time, place, means, race, or creed. His practice spanned the time from horse and buggy to motored vehicle. His shingle outside his office on Church Street read: “Dr. Brown—Office Hours: 8:00 am—Noon; 1:00 pm—6:00 pm or AS SUITS.” **(Medicine)**



Clyde S. Jackson served as chairman of the Henderson County Board of Commissioners from 1962-1974. During that time he was instrumental in creating Jackson Park. He had a dream to form a park where families could

gather for picnics, children could play, sports teams could gather for events. In addition there would be walking trails. Clyde Jackson was a moving force behind starting the county ambulance service, now known as EMS (Emergency Medical Service). During his tenure, the HC Public Library was moved from King Street to Washington Street. Former attorney William Howe had this to say: “He wasn't afraid to spend public money, but he made sure the public got its money's worth.” Clyde Jackson established Jackson Funeral Home. It is estimated that during his lifetime, he sang for over 1,000 funerals. **(Government)**



Ernest L. Justus possessed a personality perfectly fitted to working with and motivating youth. His love for his students and his desire for all of them to succeed was all the motivation he needed to press for improvements, and additional curriculum offerings. Many trace their

successful completion of high school and continuation on to college to him. Justus graduated from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill and earned his master's degree in 1930 from Columbia University. He served as principal of Flat Rock High School from 1932 until 1960. In 1960 he became the first principal of East Henderson High School (1960-1969). A year after retiring he was voted in during the first public election to the county school board. He served from 1970-86, dedicating more than 60 years to Henderson County Schools—in the classroom, as administrator, and school board member. The schools here changed during his time from the same system used by the colonists, one room log cabin, to one of the most modern systems in America. **(Education)**



Columbus Mills Pace served in the Confederate Army during the Civil War as a member of the 4th NC Regiment until the surrender of 1865. Following the war, he studied law and was elected to serve the people of Henderson County as Clerk of Superior Court. He began this service at the age of 23 and continued to serve until his death at age 80 in 1925. Judge Pace made significant contributions to Henderson County by serving as an integral part of county government for 57 years and laying the foundation for governments of the future. In 1888 Pace and W.A. Smith planned and developed Mount Echo into what today is known as Laurel Park. In 1906 they developed “The Dummy Line,” a track trolley to carry passengers from Main Street to Laurel Park, the first residential suburban development in Henderson County. He was a scholar and a legend in the community. **(Government)**

Walk of Fame - Class of 2017



PJ Moore, Jr., MD, has delivered over 1000 babies along with his over 30,000 surgeries. In 2011, Park Ridge Health, at their annual Gala, started recognizing HC recipients with the PJ Moore, Jr., MD award for excellence, Dr. Moore was the first recipient. In 1953, Dr. Moore and his family moved to Henderson County. His

medical specialty was general surgery until March, 2016, when at the age of 96 he retired his medical license from the State of NC. In 1953, Mountain Sanitarium & Hospital in Fletcher was struggling with their 75-bed facility and low census; thus the call went out to Dr. Moore. Dr. Moore stepped up to the challenge, serving as surgeon, president, hospital administrator, medical director and chief of staff as well as instructor for the nursing students. Dr. Moore succeeded in raising the funds necessary to save the hospital. For the first 19 years he was the only surgeon. He has received the Order of the Long Leaf Pine, one of the most prestigious and valued awards conferred by NC governors. Governor Beverly Perdue recognized “Dr.PJ” for his exemplary service to the community, for going above and beyond the call of duty, and making a significant impact and strengthening western NC with over 50 years of dedicated service. Dr. PJ Moore has treated many multi-generational families. **(Medicine)**



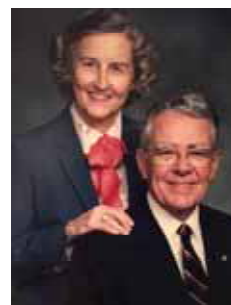
Mary Douglass Barber was a gracious and vibrant contributor to this community. From giving book reports to the Friends of the Library to pursuing civic history by cataloging with husband Jody hundreds of thousands of negatives and prints of the Baker-Barber Photograph Collection, she was endless in her service and love of Henderson County. She served as the first woman

president of the Apple Festival and was the only woman to be appointed to the Downtown Revitalization Committee. In the preparation of “Hendersonville, Henderson County: A Pictorial History (1884-1984)” she served as an editor and advisor. Mary worked closely with the City Public Works. She championed to have the avenues off Main Street decorated with bountiful hanging baskets. In January, 2003, she was honored at a Main Street Champions Awards Dinner in Salisbury. She was awarded for her “exceptional contribution to downtown revitalization.” Her work had purpose, she had ability and drive, and she always had an open mind and heart. **(Philanthropy)**



Joseph E. “Jody” Barber, along with his wife Mary, made lasting contributions to Hendersonville and Henderson County. Jody, a third-generation photographer, placed the Baker-Barber Photograph Collection in an

endowment with the Community Foundation to ensure the residents of Henderson County would have access to the photographs his family had taken and preserved. The Community Foundation has entrusted the collection to the Henderson County Public Library for all to enjoy. Jody passed away in 2001, leaving a true window to the past that will never be closed. Some of the pictures date back to 1884. Jody Barber was a charismatic merchant with vision for the community and the downtown. His gifts are still living and giving. The “wind beneath his wings” was always his wife, Mary. The family legacy continues to live on through the endowment. **(Philanthropy)**



Donald J. Godehn and Sally M. Godehn often worked together as a dynamic couple in improving our community—making beneficial contributions, individually or together, for nearly 50 years. Their contributions have persisted and continue into the future. They provided a special approach to leadership that

created benefits in many areas. Their approach consisted of their ability to recognize and identify a significant problem that needed improvement, define an effective solution and approach for addressing the problem, provide leadership to bring concerned citizens together to effect change, lead the “charge” along with others, to make the solutions work, and then help put into place excellent ongoing professional management and/or committed citizen leadership for an organization to grow its benefits into the future. Here are examples of their leadership in addressing challenges with beneficial results: court reforms for Henderson County and for NC (Sally); election reforms for Henderson County and NC (Sally and Don); support of Henderson County education and schools (Sally and Don); birthing the Henderson County YMCA (Don and Sally); birthing the Henderson County League of Women Voters (Sally); helping birth the “Opportunity House” (Sally); helping birth the “Dispute Settlement Center” (Don and Sally); leading development of the Rotary Club's education grants” (Don); and helping birth the Pardee Hospital Foundation (Don). While providing leadership, they worked with many other dedicated citizens and community leaders to achieve beneficial and lasting outcomes. **(Community Service)**