

PCEF kicks off "Annual Giving" drive for 2007

The Patrick County Education Foundation has announced the kick-off of its 2007 Annual Giving fund-raising campaign. This year's campaign is the foundation's third and most ambitious yet, with a goal of \$83,000.

"Annual giving contributions are the lifeblood of our foundation, supporting day-to-day operations and funding direct services like scholarships for Patrick County High School graduates, financial incentives for GED graduates, and much more," said Diane Edwards, foundation development director. "Annual gifts also provide evidence of community support that large regional and national foundations require before they can consider us for grant awards; we leverage these local gifts to bring in large outside dollars."

Since 2001, the founda-

tion has trained nearly 600 residents in basic job skills, committed more than \$570,000 in direct scholarship aid to PCHS graduates, and awarded \$127,000 in GED graduate incentives.

"The foundation is investing in Patrick's future by making education more accessible. This investment can have far-reaching effects that can make life better for all of us," Edwards said. "We know that both residents' health status and the community's quality of life are higher when citizens are educated. Business owners look at these things when evaluating locations for operations. They look too at the role education plays in the life of the community. We hope that all who care about Patrick County will give generously this year to keep the foundation's education-

al services growing."

Virginia state tax credits are available through the Neighborhood Assistance Program (NAP) for donors who give \$500 or more (\$889 for businesses). According to Roger Anglin, taxation director with the Roanoke office of Brown, Edwards & Company Certified Public Accountants and foundation board member, NAP enables donors to receive a credit against Virginia income tax equal to 45% of the donation. Additional tax benefits may be available in some situations. Thanks to NAP, the foundation receives each donor's full gift, the donor receives tax credits and the community receives the benefits of the foundation's services.

For more information about how to receive NAP credits or for gift level ideas, contact the foundation at (276) 694-7233.