

JUNE 3, 2007

SUNDAY

\$1.00

MARTINSVILLE BULLETIN

Volume 118, No. 131

Martinsville, Virginia

'What's next?' Kaine asks

Kaine praises Patrick foundation, graduates

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Both the adults who received their GEDs in Patrick County and the foundation that helped them achieve that milestone were looking forward on Friday.

Gov. Tim Kaine was the keynote speaker for the graduation ceremony for 39 adults earning their GEDs through the Patrick County School System with assistance from the Patrick County Education Foundation.

The foundation was founded by former Gov. Gerald Bailes, a Patrick native, in 2001 as an economic development initiative designed to raise the education levels of residents of rural areas and thus attract business and industry.

Kaine called its programs "innovative." He said the organization is responsible for more than \$600,000 in direct scholarship aid and also has helped other students find more than \$3 million in aid to continue their educations.

More than 600 adults have learned new skills through

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Former Gov. Gerald Bailes (left) talks with the current governor, Tim Kaine, at the Patrick Adult Education graduation ceremony Friday. (Bulletin photo)