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Williamsport-Lycoming Community Foundation, Founder (1916)
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NEWS RELEASE

For Immediate Release

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**SOUTH SIDE PRESCHOOL STUDENTS RAISE OVER \$1,100 FOR
WILLIAMSPORT-LYCOMING FLAGS ACROSS AMERICA;
STUDENTS MAKE PRESENTATION AT GRADUATION CEREMONY**

SOUTH WILLIAMSPORT, PA – A group of 4 and 5 year-old children has raised \$1,145 toward the Williamsport-Lycoming Flags Across America Endowment Fund at the Williamsport-Lycoming Community Foundation. Williamsport-Lycoming Flags Across America maintains the huge flag at Penn College that can be seen throughout the city and surrounding area. The local chapter of Flags Across America established the endowment to provide perpetual income to purchase replacement flags, which can cost up to \$2,100 each. Community members may make donations to the endowment fund at any time.

Students in Laurie Randall's preschool classes at the South Williamsport United Methodist Church are helping out. At their preschool graduation ceremony on Thursday night, the children presented a check for \$1145, money that they raised throughout the year by bringing in their spare pennies, quarters and dollars.

Randall explained that the children in her classes have been raising funds for the flag for five years. Her students have raised nearly \$6,000 since 2002.

Randall teaches a unit on patriotism in her classes, and encourages the students to learn about the flag and its importance. She says that her students get excited about raising money for the flag, and are always looking for spare coins to bring in for "Take Five" days, when students bring in

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donations for the project. Randall says that the students wear red, white and blue for “Take Five” days, and the excitement builds throughout the year. The total amount raised is kept a secret until graduation.

For more information on the Williamsport-Lycoming Flags Across America endowment fund, or to make a donation, contact the Williamsport-Lycoming Community Foundation at (570) 321-1500 or toll free (866) 901-2372.

The Williamsport-Lycoming Community Foundation is one of the oldest community foundations in the country. The Foundation has been making grants to community organizations since 1932, and has distributed over \$42.4 million in charitable funding to the region.

The Williamsport-Lycoming Community Foundation is also the founding affiliate of the First Community Foundation of Pennsylvania. The First Community Foundation of Pennsylvania maximizes the power of people and their donated assets to build vibrant communities within Central and Northcentral Pennsylvania now and in the future. The Foundation focuses on sincerity and integrity in all of its relationships - including those with donors, estate and financial planning professionals, trustee banks and investment managers, current and potential grant recipients, government and business leaders, and the many individuals and families living in its service area.

For more information on the programs and services offered by the Foundation, or to learn more about ways to make a difference in the community, contact the Foundation office at (570) 321-1500.

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