



For Immediate Release  
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### **Wayne Library Alliance receives Villaume Foundation Grant**

Honesdale, PA - One year ago, The John and Helen Villaume Foundation challenged the Wayne Library Alliance to raise \$40,000.00 for its new Library Technology Endowment Fund. The Technology Fund was established to help assure that local residents would have access to up-to-date technology tools and training, now and into the future. The fund is administered by the Wayne County Community Foundation.

The Villaume Foundation's commitment of \$40,000.00 represented a grant that would match donations and pledges from individuals and companies. The board of the Wayne Library Alliance stepped up and met the challenge earlier this year, thanks to leadership gifts from the Wayne County Bar Association, TopNotch Distributors, and many other donors.

Because of the success of that first challenge grant and The Villaume Foundation's continuing belief in the need for strong public libraries, The John & Helen Villaume Foundation is pleased to announce a second challenge of \$30,000.00. Again, this grant will match donations made to the

Wayne County Community Foundation that are designated for the Wayne Library Alliance Fund.

The John & Helen Villaume Foundation strongly supports the Alliance's effort to create a sustainable source of income for libraries and to focus on the future. While public libraries do receive public funding from the state and local government, it represents only about half of the income needed to keep the local libraries open. Moreover, technology increasingly represents a core library service, offering tech training, high-speed Internet, wireless, computer access, e-books, e-audiobooks, and online databases and resources such as foreign language learning and homework help. Funding to keep pace with the growth and changes in technology is essential for the community.

By investing its grant dollars as a match for donations to the Library Technology Fund, The Villaume Foundation is providing strong incentive for others to make a gift. Major gifts as well as small donations will all help because the match will, in essence, double the gift.

If you would like to invest in libraries and technology, please send a donation to the Wayne County Community Foundation, 214 9<sup>th</sup> Street, Honesdale PA 18431, with a note on the memo line designating the gift to Wayne Library Alliance Technology Fund. Contributions are U.S. tax-deductible in the year they are made, allowing donors to maximize their deductions in years when they are most beneficial.

The John and Helen Villaume Foundation established by Honesdale natives, John and Helen Villaume, is dedicated to benefit charitable, religious,

scientific, literary and educational programs within Wayne County. Since its inception, the Foundation has made awards totaling over \$1,000,000.00 with Wayne Bank managing the account in the Wealth Management and Trust Services Division of Wayne Bank.

Additional information about the Foundation and grant applications may be obtained from: The John and Helen Villaume Foundation, c/o Wayne Bank Wealth Management and Trust Services Division, 717 Main Street, Honesdale, PA 18431, or by phone: 570-253-8507 or email: [Trust@WayneBank.com](mailto:Trust@WayneBank.com) .

**PHOTO CAPTION - LEFT TO RIGHT:** Jon Villaume and Paul Edwards, Villaume Foundation Board Members; Molly Rodgers, Wayne Library Alliance System Administrator; and Louis LaBar, Wayne Library Alliance Treasurer.

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