



PENNSYLVANIA ACADEMY OF FAMILY PHYSICIANS

2704 Commerce Drive, Suite A ♦ Harrisburg, PA 17110 ♦ p 717.564.5365 ♦ f 717.564.4235

CONTACT: Bryan D. Peach, Manager of Media and Public Relations
direct 717.635.7580 ♦ cell 717.856.9040 ♦ email bpeach@pafp.com ♦ www.pafp.com

York girl wins statewide poster contest

May 23, 2012 ♦ Lincolnway Elementary School, York ♦ 3 p.m.

(HARRISBURG, PA.) York 5th grader Alexis Colon, of Lincolnway Elementary School, has won the **Pennsylvania Academy of Family Physicians' statewide Tar Wars poster contest**. An award presentation and assembly is scheduled for **3 p.m., Wednesday, May 23** at **the Lincolnway Elementary School in York** to honor Colon. For her excellent work, Colon has earned a \$500 savings bond and will move on to the national Tar Wars contest in Washington, DC this summer.

Every school year, family physicians, family medicine residents and medical students go into 4th and 5th grade classrooms across the state to teach students about the dangers of tobacco through the Tar Wars program, culminating in the fun and exciting poster contest. Studies have shown that school-based prevention programs like Tar Wars can significantly reduce or delay adolescent smoking. **This is a great opportunity for local newspapers and TV stations to honor a child for her artistic flair and enduring message – it would make an excellent kicker or health piece for broadcast, or a nice short write-up in a newspaper's community or health section.** For more information about Tar Wars and other PAFP public health initiatives go to: www.pafp.com/publichealth.

The Pennsylvania Academy of Family Physicians and its Foundation supports its members (including nearly 80 percent of Pennsylvania family physicians) through advocacy and education to ensure a patient-centered medical home for every Pennsylvanian. The Academy and its Foundation are the leading influential resource among family physicians and physicians in training in Pennsylvania; the primary voice on health care issues with state legislative and administrative branches of government, media and professional health organizations; and the leader on health care issues in the community.

###