



END OF THE LINE

A solid season came to an end as the Pine-Richland boys basketball team fell to Fox Chapel in the playoffs. **Page 14.**



DIVAS WEEKEND

An event at The Woodlands in Wexford gives participants the chance to shine as they walk the runway. **Page 3.**



REAL ESTATE LISTINGS

See what homes, businesses and properties are being sold throughout the area. **Page 13.**

PINE CREEK JOURNAL

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PINE • RICHLAND

An edition of the TRIBUNE-REVIEW with **Pennysaver** CLASSIFIEDS

Auto shop plan for former fire station gets OK

BY DEBORAH DEASY

Wexford Volunteer Fire Department's former garage in Pine could soon host oil changes, inspections and auto repairs.

Pine supervisors approved plans on Feb. 17 for the garage's reincarnation as the new home of Pine Automotive Specialists. Bruce Milbert, owner of

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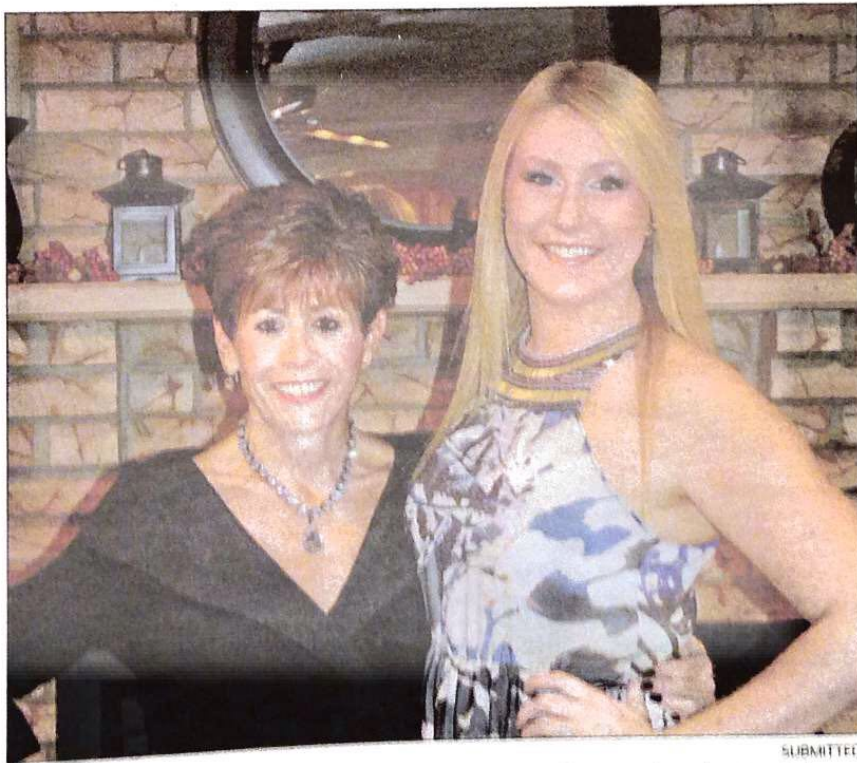
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A DIFFERENCE MAKER



SUBMITTED

Cathy Smallwood, who received the Making a Daily Difference Award, attended Fund It Forward's gala with her daughter, Callie.

WEXFORD ELEMENTARY EDUCATOR EARNS HONOR FOR WORK WITH CHILDREN, FAMILIES

BY RACHEL FARKAS

Cathy Smallwood has a zest for learning, something she tries to instill in the students she helps every day at Wexford Elementary School.

And she was recognized for her passion by the non-profit Fund It Forward.

Smallwood, 55, of Richland, received the Making a Daily Difference award, which was created to recognize professionals changing the lives of children with special needs and their families.

Smallwood has been a paraeducator at Pine-Richland's Wexford Elementary School for 10 years. She works one-on-one with special needs children or children with individualized education plans.

Her job requires her to help children who have difficulties learning in

the traditional classroom setting to stay on task and find success.

"It's just basically helping them get through the day," she said. "It's rewarding and it can be exhausting."

Kristin Hasley, Fund It Forward's executive director, said Smallwood won by popular vote from the community through an online voting system. Smallwood was up against six other professionals for the Making a Daily Difference Award, including two from Pine-Richland.

"Her Making a Daily Difference Award was a result of the community's appreciation of her tireless efforts to affect life change in the lives of children with special needs," Hasley said.

Smallwood said a group

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Elementary educator receives honor for work with kids, families

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of parents of her former students nominated her for the award.

Her nomination letter read "She always has a huge smile and a very loving heart. She truly falls in love with each and every child that she works with... She holds them accountable to make sure that they are doing their work on a daily basis, but she takes a strong interest in their life and makes them all feel so loved and so important."

The mother of three said she was humbled by the nomination, but said it was great validation for the

work she and other para-educators do each day. She credits her success in part to the team of paraeducators who work at Wexford Elementary.

"It's a tough job and a lot of times it just goes completely unnoticed," Smallwood said. "We do it with smiles and patience... It's a team effort. For me to get singled out was fabulous and wonderful, but it really does go for the whole team. We are a village."

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