

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

February 16, 1994

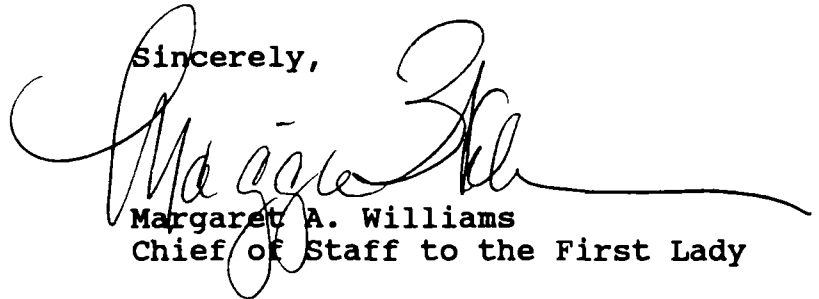
Ms. Yvonne Pointer
Regional Liaison
Attorney General Lee Fisher
State Office Building
615 West Superior Avenue, 12th Floor
Cleveland, OH 44113-1899

Dear Ms. Pointer:

My apologies for the delay in responding to your letter. My heart goes out to you and your family. I cannot imagine how difficult things have been for you since the death of your daughter.

Thank you for sharing your experience, strength and hope with me.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Margaret Williams", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Margaret A. Williams
Chief of Staff to the First Lady

A FAMILY AFFAIR

By Yvonne Pointer

We live in the day and time of statistics. Someone, somewhere has all the numbers. I recently heard the statistics for single-parent homes. Someone, somewhere knows the exact numbers of how many are having to go it alone. Many of us who have heard the statistics assume that the parental role is that of the mothers, because that information was attached to the numbers. Just as calculators replaced the numerical order in our heads, we have allowed statistics to convince us that there are no fathers abiding within. I recently, had the opportunity to talk with some students at Charles Mooney Elementary School during "Right to Read Week". After I did my official portion of the presentation, I decided to listen to the babes that shall lead the way. Several students spoke of the roles of their families, my mother this and my mother that, continued to echo, until one astute young man raised his hand and said, "Why doesn't anyone ever talk about their fathers?" After which he proceeded to explain to the entire class that his father was, is and will forever be his hero. His comments were unusual because of statistics.

From the mouth of babes, I was reminded that it is truly a family affair. And that often even with the



accuracy of statistics they do not always apply. The last editorial that I wrote was applauding mothers, rightly deserved, I might add. However, to those men that put the capital F in the word father, this one's for you. Being raised in a family of 9 children had it's ups and downs (mostly ups). It provided me with many fond memories (all of which were noisy). What I remember most was the provisions that my dad made for us. I thought for sure that he was secretly Clark Kent and underneath his chef uniform, he concealed his superman suit. After all, he had to be Superman in disguise because he never got sick (or at least I thought not), he was always dashing off to earn a living. When in distress he arrived for us more faster than a speeding bullet. He could bend the steel pipes that leaked the water that stained the walls. Milk and bread

(Continued on page 15)

FAMILY

(Continued from page 14)

money was always in place on the dresser. He owned stock in Tom McCann's, how else did all of those shoes line the closet. He could even drive on three wheels long before Ice Cube ever made his first video. It is difficult now to witness the slow deterioration of my father. To know that this man of steel will soon hang up the suit and unlike the comics, he won't put it on again. So even with his dull vision, but hearing still intact, I defy statistics, by saying, I have a father and it was because of him too, that we truly had a FAMILY AFFAIR.

So lay the paper aside and give your man of steel a call, because the statistics are not in his favor.



ABOVE AND BEYOND

By: Yvonne Pointer

Those were the words that leaped off the pages at me as my desires to attend the Essence Awards in New York City increased. I contemplated just what bills would go unpaid as I gallivanted among the stars. However, being a responsible bill payer and recognizing the need for the lights to remain on a little while longer, I thought, oh well, maybe next year. So contentment and I began to set like the sunset on a beautiful summer day. I picked up my edition of Essence Magazine and began to leaf through the pages heading straight for "In the Spirit" to find words of encouragement from Essence's Editor-in-Chief, Susan Taylor. It was then that the words above and beyond, satisfied my searching eyes. The Essence/Revlon contest. We are looking for women that go above and beyond the call of duty, to submit an essay, 100 words or less, telling us how you fit this category. Five winners will be selected to receive a 4-day, 3-night trip

for two to New York City to attend the Essence Awards Ceremony, including roundtrip air transportation between Gateway airport nearest your home, hotel accommodations, tickets for two to the Essence Awards Ceremony and the Founder's Day Dinner and \$1,000.00 cash. The more I read, the more I was convinced that this was the way that God was going to send me to New York.

Now many of you would have looked at the same page and thought, "Why waste my time, they aren't going to pick me in the first place". Well being full of faith and optimism I sat down to my trusty typewriter and let the Lord, through me, write the essay. The difficulty was trying to keep it to 100 words or less. The essay was to be accompanied by a photograph and winners would be contacted at a later date.

Well the rest is history. When I came home one day to find a Federal Express package on the table, I knew that it was about the contest; I knew that I had won. What I didn't know was

that my pumpkin was about to transform into a gold lined coach.

The trip went like this: We were met at the airport and driven to The Essex House Hotel, directly across the street from Central Park. The sun was shining and we were in New York, who said that God does not give you the desires of your heart? After checking in, there was a reception planned so that all five of the winners could meet each other. It was then that I began to realize the extent of just how far the Revlon representatives were going to go to make our trip special. From the reception, we went to another reception in which I actually touched the hand of Rosa Parks, ate fantastic food and marveled at the beauty of those individuals in attendance. "Hi, I'm Yvonne Pointer from Cleveland, Ohio, I am one of the Revlon winners," is what I said continuously, with pride. From there we were escorted to a banquet, that seated

(Continued on Page 16. See ABOVE)

ABOVE

(Continued from page 12)

nationally known individuals, it was very difficult to swallow my dinner, because I was too busy gawking. The next day we were again treated to a lavish breakfast and scheduled appointments to have our makeover done; hair, nails, make-up the works. Later that evening we were escorted (Have I mentioned yet that we travelled by limousines the entire time?) to a press conference, that included Aretha Franklin, Danny Glover, Carol Mosley Braun, Shante Moore and many other faces that we only see from afar. We were escorted upon a stage and handed a check in the amount of \$1,000.00. From there we were off to the awards ceremony. To sit in our special seats, "Oh My God", there's Eddie Murphy, Tina Turner, Flo Jo, Halle Berry, Lindsey Wagner, Anita Baker, Stephanie Mills, once again I resorted to gawking. The ceremony was everything that I imagined and then some. You will see for yourself when it airs on May 29th. From there we went to the after party. That too was filled with more beautiful people. Somewhere around the 4:00 a.m. hour we headed back to the hotel. Next, a day of shopping, sightseeing and just enjoying New York. Our limousines were ready that evening to drive us to

see the play, "The Song of Jacob Zulu", I think that out of everything that took place during this trip, this play had the most lasting effect on me. It told the story of a young man in South Africa struggling to live right in a wrong world only to eventually lose out in the end.

The next day we were treated to a lovely farewell-breakfast reception as we all prepared to head back to our pumpkins. Good-bye to Savannah, Georgia, Good-bye to Long-Beach, California, Good-bye to New Jersey, Utah and their beautiful winners; parting is such sweet sorrow.

This editorial will never be able capture the true spirit of appreciation that I feel in my heart for those wonderful people at Revlon and Essence, who by the way, did not resemble the theory of a grumpy New-Yorker (smile). They were truly the women that went above and beyond the call of duty. I think of them daily as I stand before my mirror, to apply the Revlon Products that transform me once again into the princess that rode the gold lined coaches in New York City.



**Attorney General
Lee Fisher**

November 1, 1993

The White House
Attn: Maggie Williams
Washington, D.c.

Dear Ms. Williams:

I sincerely hope that this information reaches you well and in the best of health.

This letter to you has been in my heart and on my mind every since I read the article about you in Essence Magazine, "Women Who Make A Difference". Acutually this letter has a two fold purpose. First, I want to offer you words of encouragement and send to you a portion of my strength. I realize very well that in order to make a difference you must make sacrifices and often, your own well-being is what the sacrifice becomes. So, sister's everywhere that trully recognize the struggle must become helpers one to another. I was very touched by your perserverance and tenacity. I was most impressed with your comments that you are no longer attacking the system from the outside, but you are now apart of it and that, that recognition carries with it the responsibility to make a difference.

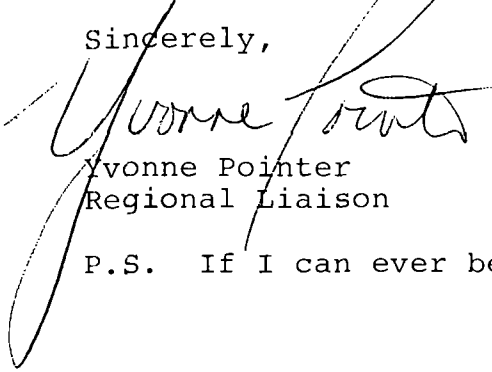
So many times Ms. Williams when we finally get to the decision making table we are either to weary from the journey that it took to get there or have forgotten what the original mission was about in the first place, to make a difference. I love that you also are recognized as a do-gooder in every sense of the word. So often in this world we often receive so much criticism for doing good that we are tempted to just surrender and become a part of the norm. Nevertheless, there are many who have not bowed to the temptation to adapt and still stand strong and mighty in the face of adversity.

I am currently employed for the Attorney General of the state of Ohio, Lee Fisher. I to have the task of watching his back, making things work and making sure things don't fall between the cracks. Some might label it as one thing but I see it as one of the greatest opportunities that has presented itself in my life. From my current position I am able to hold the feet of those who are in positions to make the changes, to the fire. I am able to walk through doors in the name of the Attorney General's representative that would have not opened so easily, otherwise.

I realize that your schedule is probably demanding so I will not take to much of your time. My second reason for writting was to share with you the enclosed information of who I am and why I too am often labeled as a Woman Who Makes A Difference.

In 1984 my oldest daughter, Gloria Pointer, was abducted, raped and murdered. I recently had the opportunity to appear on the Oprah Winfrey Show and talk about her homicide (which by the way remains unsolved). Essence Magazine also featured my story in the April edition entitled "Women who Turned Tragedy Into Triumph". I also was honored by Revlon/Essence as one of the five woman in their national contest that "Goes Above and Beyond". I certainly can attest to your article as you will see from the enclosed literature. Hopefully, you will have the occassion to review the material and will see that even from a distant you have a sister-friend.

Sincerely,



Yvonne Pointer
Regional Liaison

P.S. If I can ever be of any service to you, I can be reached at:

Attorney General Lee Fisher
State Office Building
Attn: Yvonne Pointer
615 West Superior Avenue, 12th Floor
Cleveland, Ohio 44113-1899
(216) 787-3030 (w)
(216) 231-8415 (h)

Again, keep the faith and my strength I share with you!

Rebounding from tragedy



Yvonne Pointer spun tragedy into hope, establishing Cleveland's Midnight Basketball so that she could put her arms around at-risk youngsters.

By **DONNA CHERNIN**
PLAIN DEALER REPORTER

CLEVELAND

On a cold, blustery December morning in 1984, 14-year-old Gloria Pointer was raped and murdered on her way to school.

She had left home 15 minutes earlier than usual without her mother's permission. "Gloria was so excited because she was to receive an award for good attendance and punctuality that day," recalls her mother Yvonne Pointer.

To this day, Gloria's murderer has not been found.

Tragedy has a way of either embittering or ennobling the soul.

For Yvonne Pointer, the loss of her daughter became a turning point. In 1985, she founded Parents Against Child Killing, a support group for parents of slain children. She went on to form Positive Plus, a support group for single working parents.

To help assuage her own grief and give her beloved Gloria a voice, Pointer poured her feelings into a book of poetry called "The Death of a Child." With proceeds from its sales, she founded the Gloria Pointer Memorial Scholarship Program, which provides \$500 annually to a college-bound student from the Cleveland public schools.

But perhaps Pointer's biggest labor of love was establishing in May 1991 the now-thriving Midnight Basketball program in Cleveland's inner city. The program gives a recreational and educational outlet to 18- to 25-year-old unemployed and under-employed men, many considered to be at risk for criminal behavior.

Four times a week between the hours of 10 p.m. and 2 a.m. — the time most tantalizing for crime — 120 young men at two Cleveland recreation centers sit-in on mandatory job and drug counseling workshops. Then they get in gear for spirited basketball playing, while crowds sometimes reaching 500-600 spectators pack the bleachers. Last year, police reports estimated the area crime rate plunged 54% on Midnight Basketball nights.

"After the games, the players and the screamers are so tired that everyone goes straight home," explains Pointer, who as Midnight Basketball commissioner shows up each night during the two-month season to provide moral support.

Pointer aims people on right path

Pointer's stirring crusade has not gone unheralded. Last year, she was inducted into the Ohio Women's Hall of Fame. On Sept. 30, Pointer, 39, was selected as the nation's 908th Daily Point of Light.

"When they told me at work that the White House was calling, I was speechless for the first time in a long while," Pointer says. Co-workers teasingly call her "No. 908."

Pointer puts in 40-60 hours of work each week as regional liaison for Ohio Attorney General Lee Fisher.

"We are like the eyes and the ears of the community for Lee Fisher. If he attends an event, we go with him. If he can't attend, we represent his office," explains Pointer, who was tapped by Fisher for the position because of her previous community involvement.

"Yvonne is special because of the harmony she creates between her job and her life experiences," observes Fisher.

Four evenings a week, Pointer rushes over to either the Lonnie Burton Recreation Center on E. 46th St. or the Thurgood Marshall Center on Hough Ave. to root for her guys. "My life gets to be a little hectic. But God gives me the strength, honestly He does," she says.

"After Gloria's murder, I had a need to do more than sit around in a room and grieve for her. I wanted to prevent violence from happening to someone else. I thought if I can do something to stop even one murder

"People always ask me: 'Yvonne, how is it that you are working with the very type of persons who probably killed your daughter?' Well, I say what I think: If these guys do these crimes, it's often because there's an absence of love in their life. So, if I can go and put my arms around them, give them love and show them someone cares — then maybe when they go to do wrong, maybe that will be a deterrent..."

"Basketball is the hook we use to get these guys' attention. We're interested in their lives being changed. We have mandatory workshops before the games start. These guys, they don't put on a suit or bounce a ball if they don't sit in a workshop first," explains Pointer. "We recently had a powerful workshop on AIDS. And Grafton Prison sent us five inmates who talked to the guys for over an hour to discourage them from a life of crime."

**Mommy, speak for me,
Tell the world of the pain
That I felt with the blow to
my head**

**As he left my body in the
rain.**

**Mommy, speak for me,
Even though my body is
not there.**

**Please find someone who
will listen.**

**There must be someone,
somewhere.**

— From Yvonne Pointer's book,
"Behind the Death of a Child"

Other workshops, given by local volunteer professionals, have focused on drug counseling, career planning, self-esteem and GED training. Area colleges have provided scholarships, and the city's human resource department offers job training.

Midnight Basketball continues to seek funding and sponsors; corporations or individuals can sponsor a team for \$2,000.

"Midnight Basketball gives the guys a purpose and a place," Pointer says. "One of the boy's mothers recently hugged me and said, 'Thank you so much for doing this. It gets these guys off the streets.'"

The team players give Pointer a high score. Jerome Crews, 24, says, "Yvonne Pointer is the second mother that most people don't have." Adds player Dennis Smiley, 24, "If anybody needs help, Yvonne Pointer is there. Whatever she can do, she will do. She's a woman's woman, and a man's man."

Pointer got fired up to start Midnight Basketball after watching a network news show describing a similar program in Chicago. Funded by sponsors and her own meager money, she made several trips to Chicago and Maryland to collect ideas for the league.

But the ball really got rolling when Wayne B. Moss signed on as Cleveland's commissioner of recreation in January 1991. "Wayne Moss is like the sun in my sky," says Pointer. "Before Wayne Moss came to Cleveland, I was struggling uphill to get Midnight Basketball off the ground. It was almost like Moss was the missing link. They call us the dynamic duo."

According to Moss, "Pointer is the heart and soul of Midnight Basketball. She epitomizes what it is all

about. She truly cares and loves every guy that is in that program."

Mayor Michael R. White, who appointed Pointer the point person for Midnight Basketball, would like to bottle her spirit and spread it around. "She seems to be involved on a seven-day-a-week, 24-hour basis. Anything you ever ask her to do, she will undertake, and she will give it all of her heart and soul. I just wish we had 1,000 Yvonne Pointers, and we could be the city on the hill, the city of envy."

Pointer grew up in the Hough area in a warm, close-knit family of six brothers and three sisters. Her father, Henderson, worked as a chef, and her mother, Lou Ella, as a housekeeper in a hospital. "We didn't know what welfare was," recalls Pointer.

A divorcee, Pointer has an 11-year-old daughter named Denielle, and a 19-year-old son, Raymon, who will attend the University of Akron in January.

Of all her accomplishments, she is most proud of being a mother. "My children are my friends. Gloria Pointer was my best friend. She was like my right arm. She washed all my clothes and she often took care of my youngest daughter. She was such a responsible person. The night before she died, I was ill, and Gloria brought orange juice to my bed. She left here taking care of her mother."

"But I don't want anyone feeling sorry for me. There's a lot of light in my life," she insists. "I want people to look at me and see that they can be all right in spite of terrible circumstances in their life. Let me be an example that it will be all right."

"My secretary always asks me, 'Yvonne, do you have a personal life?' After Gloria's murder, I went through a period of paranoia. I saw every man I dated as maybe being Gloria's killer. That's the devastation that an unsolved murder has. Well, I can't talk much about it yet, but there is now someone in my life who restores my womanhood..."

Pointer reflects on her personal evolution. "When I pass a mirror today, I don't recognize who I am. I am nothing like who I used to be. Before, if someone wronged me, I couldn't come to them with my feelings. I used to be so passive."

"Now I know who I am, and I know that what I have to say can make a difference. And I know I have a right to say it. Now I look at myself and I see a person who will fight to the bitter end."

"I am so committed to what I do that I've almost said: 'If it takes my life, I'm not going to back up from it. I believe that if you have not found in this life a reason worth dying for — whether it's your children, husband, your job — then you don't have a reason to live."

"Somewhere, somehow, you've got to plug into what your purpose is. Clearly, I have found my purpose: Being of service to other people who are hurting."

ONE LINE-UP YOU'LL WANT TO BE RECOGNIZED IN



After her daughter was killed, Yvonne Pointer felt as if the ball was in her court. She helped found the Midnight Basketball program, to win young black men back from the streets. Posters like the one above, publicizing the program, are plastered around town.

COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENTS OF

MS YVONNE POINTER

Slaying prompts mom to become victims' advocate

By **DELL M. MOSLEY**
PLAIN DEALER REPORTER

CLEVELAND

Eight years ago, as Yvonne Pointer stood over her daughter's casket, she made a promise.

"I told her that her death would not be in vain," Pointer said. "I know what happened was meant to destroy me, but God had a better plan."

While never forgetting her personal tragedy, Pointer went on to become a tireless champion for victims of crimes, lending moral support to people in need.

Her contributions have been noted. She recently was awarded the FBI's Community Leadership Award.

Her daughter Gloria was found dead Dec. 6, 1984. She had left her E. 114th St. home to go to a girlfriend's house before school. Gloria, a cheerleader at Harry E. Davis Junior High School, where she had perfect attendance, had been beaten to death.

The crime remains unsolved.

Ever since the slaying, Pointer has been on a mission of personal sacrifice and contribution, said Thomas F. Jones, special agent in charge of the FBI.

"She is an inspiration to the citizens of Cleveland for her courage and dedication to helping people," Jones said. "Her volunteerism is to (help make) a decent, crime-free and safe community environment."

Pointer is affectionately known as the mother of Cleveland midnight basketball. She was instrumental in establishing a midnight basketball league in the city.

Participants are young men between the ages of 17 to 25 who play basketball in the fall from 10 p.m. to 2 a.m. In addition to playing basketball, they must participate in educa-

tion, job-training and anti-drug programs.

Her latest award was not her first.

In 1991, she was inducted into the Ohio Women's Hall of Fame for her outstanding contribution to victims' rights, supporting victims' families, developing recreational programs for at-risk youths and her mentoring with Cleveland public schools.

Last year, she was honored by Ursuline College for outstanding services and efforts.

Last Sept. 30, she was selected as the nation's 908th Daily Point of Light by former President Bush.

Pointer is a regional liaison for Attorney General Lee Fisher.

Pointer established the Gloria Pointer Memorial Scholarship, which provides \$500 each year to needy college-bound students.

Within months after her daughter's death, she established Parents Against Child Killing, a support group that provides information and counseling.

A longtime member of Prayer Temple Church of God in Christ, she credits her faith for her strength.

"To God be the glory," she said. "What I'm doing, anybody can do. When I'm dead and gone somebody else will do it with the help of God, who heals a broken heart."

She was recently featured in Essence magazine.

"I took the magazine to the cemetery and I said to her, 'Look, Mommy is in Essence,' but I didn't hear anything," she said. "It would mean so much to have her next to me. But then if she was, none of this would be happening. It's a bittersweet victory. My child is resting with the Lord."

Plain Dealer reporter Michael Sangiacomo contributed to this article.



YVONNE POINTER

Fighting dangers against strangers

While many programs for children concentrate on what to do in case of danger, Yvonne Pointer, mother of a slain 14-year-old girl, is devoting her time teaching children what to do to prevent becoming victims of crimes, as her daughter did last December. This week's issue will concentrate on those preventive measures. Included are 16 tips for parents to clip and save and share with their children. (story on page 4B).

"Dangers Against Strangers"

Program helps keep children safe from crime

By SHARON JEFFERSON

The mother of a slain 14-year-old girl and radio personalities have joined forces to teach children ways to protect themselves from becoming a victim of a crime. Yvonne Pointer, mother of Gloria Pointer, a

Cleveland student who was murdered last December, and Lynn Tolliver, of WZAK-93FM radio, spoke at part of the "Fighting the Dangers Against Strangers" campaign, conceived by WZAK spokesperson Renee Singleton.

The program was held at Cuyahoga Community College's metro campus, and attracted over 50 youngsters who donated a small fee which was given to United Way. Prior to speeches, a musical program was performed by "A Brand New Kite" production company of the Collinwood area in Cleveland. The children also received door prizes, which included T-shirts, whistles and a recording of the United Way theme song, "For So Many, We're The Only Way."

Some of the officials attending the event included Cheryl Wills, President and Chief Volunteer Officer of United Way, businessman Bruce Foster, JoAnne "Mother Love" Hart of WGCL radio, and Singleton.

Ms. Pointer emphasized to the children to be aware that they could become victims of crime. She told how her daughter was abducted while on her way to junior high school, raped and killed.

"You think I like talking about this all of the time? No! It just makes me

feel good to know that I can be part of it," she explained.

Tolliver offered several safety tips for the children. They included: Tolliver, Ms. Pointer, and WZAK's Ken Aronson took part in the "Dangers Against Strangers" campaign to some 10 elementary schools in the Cleveland area.

- | | |
|--|---|
| • Avoid vacant lots and abandoned buildings. | • Do not go with anyone you do not know well. |
| • Stand outside of bus shelters so you can escape if necessary. | • Carry a whistle to warn others when you are in danger. |
| • Walk away from scrubs and bushes. | • Never walk through a group of strangers. |
| • If someone tries to force you into a car, run around the other way. | • Never get into a car with one or more occupants who you do not know. |
| • Walk in groups of three or more. | • Wear comfortable shoes in case you have to escape by running. |
| • When walking alone, try to appear alert and look as if you know where you are going. | • Do not load yourself with packages. |
| • Do not wear your name on your clothing. | • Do not cut school, and establish a habit of being where you should be. |
| • Do not take short cuts which can block you off from the main streets. | • One member of the audience also recommended establishing a secret password with your parents in case you are kidnapped. |

MARGARET SPELLACY JR. HIGH
655 East 162nd Street Cleveland, Ohio 44110 Tel 531-2872

September 23, 1985

Renee Singleton
Radio Station WZAK
1729 Superior Avenue
Cleveland, Ohio 44114

Dear Ms. Singleton,

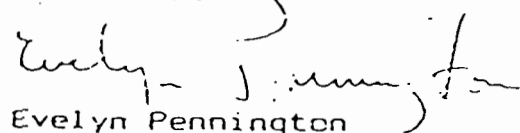
"Stranger Danger" assemblies were presented for Margaret Spellacy students on September 17, 1985, by Lynn Tolliver, Ken Allen, and Yvonne Pointer. I want you to know that students, faculty, and parents greatly appreciate their outstanding efforts to help in solving the problem of crime against young people.

During the entire program, all students were attentive to the speakers. Our youngsters were obviously touched by the sense of caring shown by Mr. Tolliver, Mr. Allen, and Mrs. Pointer. Their presentations were superb. Many students expressed to me their admiration for the courage displayed by Mrs. Pointer as she recalled the tragic circumstances surrounding the death of her daughter, Gloria.

Several parents telephoned the school to express their appreciation for the "Stranger Danger" program. Their children talked with them about the tips suggested by Mr. Tolliver and Mr. Allen. The day after the assemblies, a young female student was frightened by a man who tried to lure her into his vehicle. She followed the advice she had been given, and managed to escape harm.

It is with a deep sense of appreciation that I acknowledge the concern and dedication of Radio Station WZAK, Mr. Tolliver, Mr. Allen, and Mrs. Pointer. They deserve the highest praise for their efforts to protect our children. On behalf of students, teachers, and parents, I extend our most sincere thanks.

Sincerely,



Evelyn Pennington
Principal

cc: John Hairston
Yvonne Pointer
Ken Allen
Lynn Tolliver

CLEVELAND PUBLIC SCHOOLS

1330 EAST SIXTH STREET • CLEVELAND, OHIO 44114 • TELEPHONE 574-3600

RALPH J. PERK, JR.
President
MILDRED R. MADISON
Vice-President
ALVA T. BONDA
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JOSEPH G. TEGREENE
STANLEY E. TOLLIVER
EDWARD S. YOUNG

Ronald A. Boyd
Superintendent

October 16, 1985

Mr. John Hairston, Chief
Community Relations Department
Cleveland Board of Education

Dear John:

I want to thank you for permitting the students and staff of Clara E. Westropp to participate in the Stranger-Danger Program.

On October 10, 1985, we had Miss Pattye Sawyer from the Ohio Lottery, Mrs. Yvonne Pointer, parent; and Mr. Ken Allen, WZAK Disc Jockey. The presentation made by each was enlightening and meaningful.

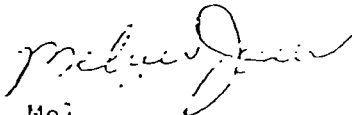
I believe that this program should be in all Cleveland Public Schools and if funds permit this program should be incorporated state wide.

Mrs. Pointer and Mr. Allen worked exceptionally well together. They appear to work on the inner rather than appeal to an age group.

I am enclosing several letters that were handed to me at the end of the school day by some of the students that were touched by the message.

John, thanks again for remembering my students.

Sincerely,



Mei
Melvin Jones, Principal
Clara E. Westropp Jr. High School

MJ:els
encl:
cc: Cluster Director
Director, Ohio Lottery
Mrs. Yvonne Pointer
Miss Pattye Sawyer
Mr. Ken Allen

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

For more information contact Renee Singleton at 621-9300

"FIGHTING THE DANGERS AGAINST STRANGERS WITH WZAK AND THE OHIO LOTTERY"

WHO: WZAK, the most listened to urban radio station, in Ohio and the Ohio Lottery, with the Department of Supportive Services and Community Relations of the Cleveland Public Schools.

WHAT: "Fighting the Dangers Against Strangers with WZAK and the Ohio Lottery". WZAK and the Ohio Lottery in conjunction with the Department of Supportive Services and Community Relations of the Cleveland Public Schools will carry a message of child safety into nineteen Cleveland schools. WZAK-FM disc jockeys, Lynn Tolliver and Ken Allen will head this campaign by making personal appearances at the schools with a prepared program to impress upon students the need to be aware of their personal safety. Plans are being made to include players from the Cleveland Browns or the Cleveland Cavs in conjunction with this program.

WHEN/WHERE/TIMES: Harry E. Davis Jr. High—September 17th—12:15-1:15
3719 Polliston Rd.

Benjamin Franklin Elementary—September 18th--1:45-2:25
1905 Spring Road

Margaret Spellacy Jr. High—September 19th—9:00-9:30
655 E. 162nd St.

Paul Pevere Elementary--September 20th—10:00, 10:35, 11:15
10706 Sandusky Ave.

-MORE-

Alexander Hamilton Jr. High--September 24th--9:55-10:35
3465 E. 130th Street

Willson Jr. High--September 25th--1:00
1625 E. 55th Street

A.B. Hart Jr. High--September 26th--9:00
3901 E. 74th Street

Warner Elementary--September 27th--1:00-1:40
8315 Jeffries Ave.

Thomas Jefferson--September 30th--9:30-10:15
3145 W. 46th Street

O.H. Perry Elementary--October 1st--9:25-10:05-10:45
18400 Schenely Ave.

Forest Hill Parkway Elementary--October 2nd--9:30-10:15-10:
450 E. 112th Street

Orchard Elementary--October 3rd--2:15
4200 Bailey Ave.

Kentucky Elementary--October 4th--10:15-10:45
3805 Terratt Ave.

Union Elementary--October 7th--9:30
6701 Union Ave.

Charles Orr Elementary--October 8th--2:00
9711 Lamont

Watterson-Lake Elementary--October 9th--10:25-11:05
1422 W. 74th St.

Clara Westropp Jr. High--October 10th--9:45
19101 Puritas Avenue

Nathaniel Hawthorne Elementary--October 11th--10:00-11:00
3575 W. 130th St.

Cranwood Elementary--October 15th--10:30
13604 Christine Avenue

WHY: To raise a community awareness in regards to child safety and to "Fight the Dangers Against Strangers".

NOTE: If you would like to send a camera crew to cover the above seminars, please contact my office as soon as possible.

-ED-



MORNING JOURNAL/STEPHEN S. COUNSEL

LOOP HOPE — Former Cleveland Cavalier Phil Hubbard, left, Ron Rucker, and "Mother" of

the Midnight Basketball League Yvonne Pointer share a laugh at yesterday's tip-off luncheon.

Midnight to rescue

Basketball league may cut Elyria crime

By **MICHAEL LUSTIG**
Morning Journal Writer

ELYRIA — Game 5 in the semifinal playoff match between the Cleveland Cavaliers and the Chicago Bulls wasn't the only basketball game people talked about in Elyria yesterday.

For part of the day, the focus was on the Midnight Basketball League, and how it may help young men avoid trouble and turn their lives around.

"Are these guys hopeless, like the media would say you believe? I'm here to tell you they're

not," declared Yvonne Pointer, named the "mother of Midnight Basketball" by Cleveland Mayor Michael White at a tip-off luncheon at the Elyria YWCA.

During a fiery and rousing talk, Ms. Pointer said, "It's not even about basketball — basketball is the hook that we're going to reel them into the gym."

Sixty youths between the ages of 17 and 21 will be chosen to play on six teams in Lorain County's

Please see **MIDNIGHT**, page B7

MIDNIGHT

➞ From page B1

Midnight Basketball League. All players will be required to attend workshops on topics including AIDS awareness, parenting and job training before their games, or else they'll be kicked out of the league. Games are played between 10 p.m. and 2 a.m.

Ms. Pointer said she knows little about basketball. But Phil Hubbard, a former member of the Cleveland Cavaliers, told the group, "You'll get the rewards back when you see the guys getting the jobs, going back to high school."

Ms. Pointer, a regional liaison for Attorney General Lee Fisher, said she was always involved in the Cleveland community, but became determined to try and stop the violence seducing and killing so many young black men after her daughter, Gloria, was kidnapped, raped and murdered while walking to junior high

school on Dec. 6, 1984.

"My involvement is about that no parent should have to bury their child," she said.

What youths need, she said, is to know that someone cares. She shows that by giving players slices of freshly baked cakes and praising their game skills, and has earned the title "mom" from more than 60 youths.

Sam Vickers, program director for Lorain County's Midnight Basketball League, said some of Ms. Pointer's enthusiasm is rubbing off on him. "There's something about her — it makes you bubbly," he said.

All Lorain County residents aged 17 to 21, male and female, are eligible. Sixty will be assigned to teams through an NBA-style draft. People should sign up at the Elyria Neighborhood Center, 107 Oberlin Road, by Friday.

For more information, call 323-7847.

Midnight Basketball of Lorain County

TIP - OFF LUNCHEON
MAY 27, 1992

A real victory

Midnight Basketball League shoots for education, jobs

By MIKE PETICCA

FRANK DEALER REPORTER

More than an ordinary neighborhood basketball game tipped off when David Cannon of the Cavs jumped center against the Pistons' Troy Brookins on Tuesday night in the Midnight Basketball League opener at East Tech High School.

Especially so for Yvonne Pointer.

It was Pointer's initiative that helped to make the league a program that blends basketball with job and educational opportunities.

Pointer, a Cleveland mother of two, has a chilling motivation for wanting to provide alternatives to those who could fall prey to the temptations and dangers of inner-city streets.

Pointer's 14-year-old daughter, Gloria, was raped and murdered on the East Side in 1984.

"I'm a survivor of a violent crime," Pointer said before the games Tuesday. "That's the motive I use in seeking solutions: We're letting the drugs and gangs take over. If everybody sits back and complains but does nothing about it, little will get done in defeating the problems."

"If my getting involved in any work that could prevent a young person from becoming involved with drugs or a type of crime such as murder, then my time is well invested."

In its first year in Cleveland, the Midnight Basketball League features three games from 10 p.m. to 2 a.m. Tuesday and Thursday nights for eight weeks. Sixty East Side Cleveland men, 18 to 25 years old, play the games at the Lonnie Burten Recreation Center. Tuesday's festivities at East Tech began at 8 p.m. and drew about 300 spectators.

"We expected this turnout, so we wanted a big gym, and we didn't want to keep everybody up late," said Wayne B. Moss, commissioner of Cleveland's Division of Recreation and also commissioner of the league.

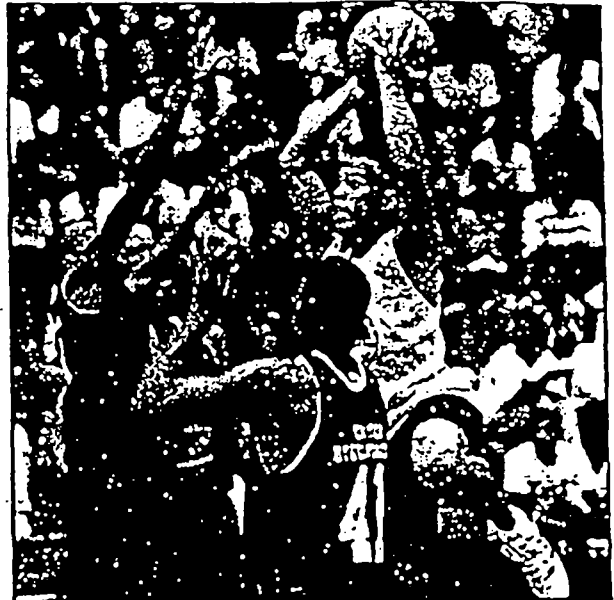
Midnight Basketball got its start in Glenarden, Md., in 1986. Chicago adopted the idea in 1989. Pointer said she went to Chicago — on my own — about six times in 1990 to gather information on the midnight league. The Lord provided me with the means and the strength.

Then I went to a Cleveland town meeting held by Mayor (Michael R.) White. I stood up and talked about midnight basketball. Mayor White and Wayne Moss liked the idea and got the league going.

White spoke at the league's tip-off breakfast Tuesday morning in the City Hall Rotunda.

Each of the league's six teams has a head coach and an assistant coach, who supervise twice-a-week practice sessions. The structured approach encourages a discipline that league boosters hope will carry over into other aspects of the men's lives. About 45-50 of the players are unemployed, said league director Joe Williams.

Teaching basketball is an objective of ours," said



PHOTOGRAPH BY HENRY

Charles Winfield of the Cavs goes up for a basket over Armando Danell (41) and other Pistons' defenders during the opening night of the Midnight Basketball League at East Tech High School.

Williams, who also manages the Burten Recreation Center. "But our priority is to offer positive alternatives to 'at-risk' young men by providing employment education and job development support services."

Moss said the league would take advantage of the Job Training Partnership Act, and the involvement of local educational institutions such as Dyke College and Cuyahoga Community College to incorporate "elements of job training and vocational and educational opportunities" into the league's agenda. League officials will try to place the men in job-training programs fitting their talents. Educational programs will be available to men who did not graduate from high school and to those who want to further their education.

"I'm excited about it, because we're going to get the opportunity to talk to people who might be able to help us get job training, and a job," said Rodney Pierce, 25, an unemployed East Tech graduate who plays for the Lakers. "The basketball is secondary to getting a job and furthering our educations."

Workshops "on things like drug awareness and AIDS awareness," will be offered on game nights, Moss said. Security at the games is provided by the Cleveland Police Department, its Gang Unit division and Cuyahoga Metropolitan Housing Authority police.

Moss said that the league received a \$25,000 grant from the Gund Foundation and that CMHA provided \$25,000. Team sponsors include the Cleveland Cavaliers, R.J.R. Nabisco, Bank One Cleveland, Pepsi-Cola, the United Steel Workers of America, and the Cleveland Division of Recreation and CMHA as a co-sponsor.

OUTDOORS

Waterfowl populations increasing

The Ohio Wildlife Council has approved the 1991-92 waterfowl

D'ARCY EGAN

are down, but they'll increase by about 1 million birds this year, Tom said. With the advent of rain, and if

Cleveland P.D. 7-23-91

Dribbling their way out of despair

Midnight Basketball to focus on helping jobless dropouts

ANN FARRY

MAIN DEALER REPORTER

Wayne Moss is a man of vision.

His vision looms about midnight. It slices the illness of thick summer heat. Black and orange, sounds of boards.

After dark is when it will happen.

Beginning Sept. 3, the Lonnie Burten Recreation Center on E. 46th St. will be open from 10 p.m. to 2 a.m. for Midnight Basketball, a program targeting unemployed 18- to 25-year-old high school dropouts — "marginal guys," Moss, Cleveland recreation commissioner, calls them.

The kind of people who fall through the cracks.

Moss hopes that basketball will stop the fall.

"We're looking for guys unemployed, underemployed, who may be in need of a high

school diploma," Moss said. "They are sitting-on-the-fence guys. We want to help them make things happen. The idea is to use basketball to get them in the door."

The league is fashioned after the National Basketball Association and includes tournaments, coaches, referees, shoes and uniforms.

Glamour.

Importance.

Moss' vision doesn't stop with basketball: He paints a picture.

"Once you get them there, into the system, and they're excited about it, other goals can be accomplished," he said. "It's a structured program. They participate in mandatory workshops and will be offered an array of support services. We can increase self-esteem through GEDs, job training and

higher education. Ideally, I would like to see every kid who comes through that door have a scholarship."

Midnight basketball was started in Glenarden, Md., in 1986 by G. Van Standifer, then the town manager. "The Prince Georges County Police Department did a study on reported crimes," Standifer said. "The figures showed a 60 percent reduction in reported crimes during league hours after the first year of the program."

The Chicago Housing Authority was so impressed with the results that it created a program in 1989. Gil Walker, manager of sports programs and commissioner of midnight basketball for the CHA, said the program had had an impact.

"Currently, we have 160 young men

SEE BASKETBALL/8-A

Basketball

FROM/1-A

participating," he said. "Not one of them has been incarcerated. We think that is exceptional. We have 63 men who are now employed because of midnight basketball. To be frank, crime statistics do not reflect our success. Chicago is a big city, and we're only dealing with a relatively small amount of people. I don't know what they do after 2 a.m. I do know that we are creating a value system, a way for them to redefine their manhood. We have bridged a credibility between authority and our clientele, where mistrust was big enough to drive a Mack truck through. There is no one way to solve these problems, but we've been able to, No. 1, get their attention, and No. 2, make an impact through self-development."

Cleveland community activist Yvonne Pointer said she watched a segment about midnight basketball on a Chicago talk show and wanted to bring it here. With the help of Moss and other city officials, it's happening, she said.

"My daughter, Gloria Pointer, was raped and murdered in 1986 on her way to school," Pointer said. "Since then, I have been trying to help victims of violent crimes. This program is exciting, because it's preventative. It can stop crime before it happens."

There are risks — gang-violence, weapons, drugs.

"I'm a risk-taker," Moss said. "I don't know if I want to talk about the risks, because people will say ... well, they think it presents a forum for 'gang banging' — fights, gang wars — I assure you that will not happen. No. 1, we will create an atmosphere where that cannot happen, where potential gang members are on the same team. That will break down the turfism, the 'them' vs 'us' mentality.

"No. 2, we will have security in full force. We will make sure it's drug free and gang free. There will be no weapons. We'll do whatever we have to do."

Isn't that treating the symptom and not the problem?

the solution. If someone has a better idea, I'll listen. If not, if they do nothing, then they are part of the problem."

Burten was chosen because it's in an area of high crime and gang activity, Moss said.

"The men are at risk for drugs and gang involvement," Moss said. "The young men in that area happen to be needing some help. We're using Burten as a pilot program."

Eventually, he said, he hopes other recreation centers adopt the program.

Center manager Joe Williams said Burten was unique in that it is completely surrounded by Cuyahoga Metropolitan Housing Authority property.

The center is an island in a polluted urban sea. Women sit in doorways. Just before dusk, boys and men play games. They glance suspiciously. Children scatter when outsiders come.

Why would they want the interference? And why should basketball overpower the allure of street life?

vicinity, attended the first organizational meeting. He said he wanted to play.

"I am in a group called the Tribe," he said. "We rap with our music, we have a message — to save — and this is one way to get it across. For me, I want to help. I want to get my GED. I want to get a good job."

Williams said he thought it could work.

"I have high hopes," Williams said. "It can be something positive. Look, they're out there now playing basketball. This program will do more."

"Basketball is the hook," Moss said. "Basketball is still the game of choice among young blacks."

Of course, money is a problem.

Moss said the recreation department was trying to reopen all of last year's playgrounds, but services were cut \$300,000. Midnight basketball is soliciting private funds and has received a \$25,000 grant from the Gund Foundation, as well as a verbal commitment from CMHA, Moss said. Dyke

school and Nike has contributed shoes and shirts. The city is paying the cost of keeping the center open, but additional money is needed, Councilman Frank Jackson, D-5, said.

Standifer emphasized the need for public and private partnership. "There will never be enough tax dollars to fund this," he said. "I don't think it can survive without private funding."

Pointer is approaching area funeral homes for sponsorship. "How many of our young men have been buried?" she asked. "I want money for life."

"I need the money," Moss said. "We need community support to do what we do. We are trying to raise funds for this program. Right now, everything is still free to the public."

As Moss envisioned, midnight basketball will be free to all participants. "It's free — to not take advantage is baffling," Moss said.

Missing out could be expensive.

■ Tryouts for players ages 18 to 25 will be at 10 p.m. Friday at the Burten center. Con-

Sports

Midnight Basketball program drafts players

Cleveland's Midnight Basketball League, developed to provide an alternative to crime while combating crime and drugs, has drafted 54 men for the six basketball teams, Cleveland Recreation Commissioner Wayne Moss announced Monday.

The six teams, comprised of 10 players per team were selected from applicants living in Cuyahoga Metropolitan Housing Authority (C.M.H.A.). Players will receive new uniforms and equipment, as well as the best available coaching and instruction. In exchange, participants must be punctual and play by the rules.

The program gives 18 to 25 year-old men--known to be "at risk" for potential involvement in criminal behavior--a recreational and educational outlet during

the hours of 10 p.m. and 2 a.m., when crimes are most likely to be committed, according to Moss.

Midnight Basketball will offer more than just recreational opportunities, it will provide mandatory workshops, on the job training, drug counseling, parenting, and GED preparation. In Glenarden, Maryland, where the program was developed in 1986 by its City Manager, crime during league hours has been reduced by 67 percent.

Cleveland's league will be held at the Lonnie Burten Recreational Center, 2511 East 46th Street, beginning September 3 and lasting for eight weeks. Practices will be held once a week; games will be played twice a week. The Gund Foundation and

C.M.H.A. have each provided \$25,000 grants to launch the pilot program.

There will be a Kick-off Breakfast in the City Hall Rotunda on September 3 at 8:30 a.m. The first game of the League will be held at East Technical High School that evening at 8 p.m.

The following is a list of the teams and players participating in the Midnight Basketball League:

•CAVS; Gerald Linder, Charles Taylor, Deon Long, David Gannon, Michael Sankey, Rashaun Davis, Randy Burks, Ceylon Triplett, and Charles Mitchell.

•LAKERS; Ray Brooks, Leon Jenkins, Deandre Jackson, Rodney Pierce, Terrance Faxworth, Randy Pittman, Lawrence Lawson, Cornelius Sanford and Joe Crews.

•PISTONS; Leroy Powell, Armando Danell, Eric Reid, Dave Walker, Chris Peterson, Angelo Duncan, Rafeal Larkins, Ronald Jenkins, and Homer Lacy.

•JAZZ; James Adams, Joe Smitzer, Ted Taylor, Robert Gardner, Ronald Smith, Andre Franklin, Tim Settles, Gerald Dotson, and Jesse Bacon.

•BULLS; Steve Perkins, Keith Triplett, Malcolm Stevenson, Joe Putman, Vince Smith, Dewey Williams, Eric Mitchell, Daryl Bacon, and Charles Miller.

•HAWKS; Mike Evans, Carl Philmon, Deametrious Harris, Freddie Biles, Raymond Mayhan, Gerald Terry, Percy Ponlus, Walter Johnson, and Frank Woodland.



40

T PICKS for the Midnight Basketball League, with league commissioner Freedman Blades (3rd from 4) and Yvonne Pointer, while Manny Leaks, former pro player towers over the group in the background.

9 players attend Midnight basketball league draft

By GROVER C. CRAYTON
Call and Post Sports Reporter

cores of night-people packed the Burtin Recreation Center for the NBA-style draft of the Midnight Basketball League. Scheduled for a September 3rd tip off, the league was conducted open tryouts July 26 for more than seventy prospective participants to compete for 60 roster positions. Many more signed up and were added on a waiting list, once word of the league program spread through the community, following an announcement of the program by Mayor Michael R. White. The program consists of a six-team, 12-week pilot league for men between the ages of 18 and 25, who are economically disadvantaged. Games will take place between the hours of 10:00 P.M. and

2:00 A.M. -- the hours when the dangers of the streets are at their peak. Basketball is merely the attraction, according to Recreation Commissioner Wayne B. Moss. In addition to games sponsored by the City of Cleveland's Division of Recreation and the Cuyahoga Metropolitan Housing Authority, players are required to attend workshops on self-esteem, C.E.D. training, drug counseling and career planning. Dyke College has earmarked three scholarships for MBL participants. Cuyahoga Community College has anted up with assessment and counseling. The City's Human Resource Department will facilitate job training. "Either you're part of the problem or part of the solution," said Moss. "If you can articulate the problem, but do nothing to lead to a solution, you're one more person with a strong opinion with no commitment to change.

"We've had tremendous support from various groups. However, we need more financial support from the Black business community to truly make the endeavor successful." The league is fashioned after the National Basketball Association and includes coaches, uniforms, shoes, tournaments and all-star games in other cities. Freeman Blade has been selected as Commissioner and Joe Williams the assistant commissioner of Midnight Basketball, while Yvonne Pointer serves as co-chair. MBL is soliciting private and corporate funds and has received \$25,000 from the Gund Foundation. Nike has provided some of the product and shoes for kids has made a donation of shoes and socks.

THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF CLEVELAND

extends its heartiest congratulations to

YVONNE POINTER

on the occasion of your making Mid-Night Basketball a reality in Cleveland.

Councilman FRANK G. JACKSON

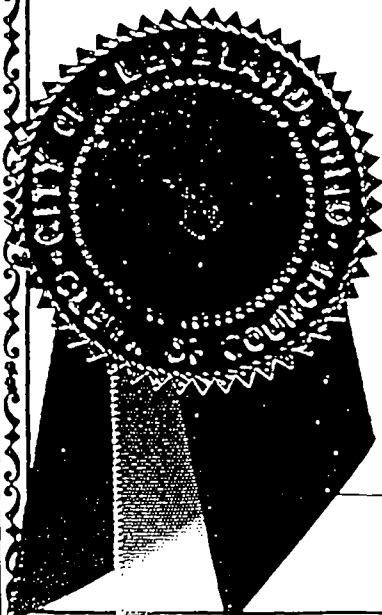
has apprised the Council of this event which is a most noteworthy occasion in your career.

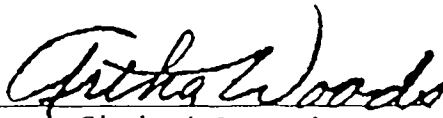
THE CITY COUNCIL extends its warmest
felicitations and congratulations to you on this important event in your career and offers its best wishes for continued success and happiness in the years ahead.



President of Council

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have
hereunto subscribed my hand and affixed the official seal of the Council of the City of Cleveland.





Clerk of Council



MEETING OF THE MINDS-Religious and political leaders joined together for the cause to help missing or abducted children, at a meeting at Cleveland's Starlight Baptist Church. From left are: Rabbi Oppenheimer, Sena-

tor Lee Fisher, Yvonne Pointer (mother of an abducted and murdered girl) and Rev Edward Small. (Photo By Lawrence Watson)

New law helps missing/abducted children

By LAWRENCE WATSON

It's even o'clock. Your eight-year-old daughter was due home from school at three, but there's been no sign of her yet. No one has called, nobody has seen her. You call the police and you're told that they must wait at least 72 hours before they even begin to search. Names like Tiffany Papish and Adam begin wandering through your head. What can a parent do?

"Up until now, there was precious little a worried parent could do," according to State Senator Lee Fisher. At a meeting with Cleveland's religious leadership at Starlight Baptist Church in Cleveland on July 15, Fisher told an audience of about 50 concerned parents that before his legislation was passed and signed into law in January of 1985, police departments could arbitrarily wait from 24 to 72 hours before looking for a missing child. Due to a recent increase in the number of children missing or abducted, growing concern has forced the Senator's hand. He said that new legislation will shift the priorities of police department to make

immediate investigations of reported missing children incidents mandatory.

"There was a time," said the Senator, "when the police put more emphasis on finding missing cars than missing children. There was a time, when child stealing was only a minor misdemeanor in the state of Ohio."

"We do not inherit the future from our parents, we borrow it from our children," said Fisher, making a point at out parental responsibility. "We owe it to our children to make them safe from harm, without pulling leashes and fences around them 24 hours a day," he added.

Fisher continued that he knew of gruesome stories of physical and sexual abuse of children abducted by their own parents. Police, he said, at one time had been very arbitrary in selecting the cases they investigated involving missing kids. Most of the cases of children over the age of 10 that were missing were almost automatically considered runaway cases, cases where

the child left the home of its own volition. "I don't want to say that," he said, "though many teenagers do, in fact, leave home and return home but cannot, because of their situation, be helped. Prostitution and child pornography. These are the cases where the child were abductions like any other investigation."

His new legislation, according to Fisher, will require investigations into reported missing children within 24 hours, and make child enticement, luring children away from their parents, a new crime. Many people try to entice children away from their cars with them with candy or promises of money. Fisher said that child's parents. Even the child's name and address, then of enticing the child is now a crime.

Fisher suggested that child safety groups, such as the National School, are a good idea. "I never saw them, but I think they

(Continued on Page 15)

New law helps

(Continued From Page 1A)

paranoid about fires in the school. But I did learn what I should do in case of a fire and a child safety drill should do the same thing," said Fisher.

He asked parents to undergo voluntary fingerprinting and to have the child fingerprinted by the police department or at a local mall. He said that though fingerprinting is a violation of one's right to privacy, if the fingerprint card is given to the parent only, it's okay. "Don't," he said, "let the police or any private business hold the fingerprint, once one of your child has been made. Have it done where the parent can hold the card and that way the child is safe."

In a nutshell, the Senator said, "my bill will do five things: It will establish missing child programs to educate parents about what they can do and what they should do to prevent their child from being abducted; It makes child stealing, even by one of the parents, a felony; It requires police to undergo special training in dealing with child abuse or abduction; It requires that a search begin immediately for missing children, once it has been reported to the police; and The Fingerprinting program was instituted by this bill.

To some of his listeners, the idea that a stolen car would be investigated before a stolen or missing child is ludicrous. "But," said the Senator, "children have the weakest lobby of them all because they don't vote. They have to rely on others to see their needs met and it doesn't always work out that way. If it did, this might be a better world," he added.

The Senator said he makes at least three speeches a week, in favor of tougher laws against child stealers and abductors. He said he worked through the churches because it was necessary, but that schools and local school systems had also cooperated in his effort.

His bill, was introduced in January of 1984 and passed in December of '84. It was not until January of 1985 that the bill was signed into law.

Fisher contends there were 1.5 million reported missing children last year and that the actual number may be greater than that, because some parents are afraid to report their children as missing for one reason or another.

Yvonne Pointer, of Cleveland, who's daughter, Gloria Pointer, was abducted and murdered, said, "No one knows when the cat will strike next. No one is safe."

SPEECH GIVEN BY YVONNE POINTER FOR
THE INAUGURATION OF LEE FISHER, ATTORNEY GENERAL
OF THE STATE OF OHIO
JANUARY 14, 1991

Needless to say, I was deeply touched and elated on Thursday, when I received a call from Lee Fisher, inviting me to make a few brief comments at his swearing-in ceremony today. I began to pray for the words to say. For you see I was always taught to speak only of that which you see but to testify of that which you know. So it was at that point my thoughts of Lee Fisher began to flow.

My admiration for Lee goes past his status quo, past his current political standing, past the place of his residence, his economical situation, and past the color of his skin. It reached deep into the soul of the man. For I realize that we are not a body with a soul but a soul with a body. So I stand before you today to testify about the soul of the man whom we have elected as Attorney General. A soul that has a depth deeper than the deepest ocean. A soul who has the length that reaches from our state capital down into the inner city of Cleveland, Ohio to grasp and mend the demolished heart of this mother who was victimized by a violent and insensitive crime. For you see it was six years ago that my daughter, Gloria Pointer, was abducted, raped, and brutally murdered as she walked to school.

It was at that time I was contacted by then State Senator Lee Fisher to offer his personal assistance in any manner that I deemed applicable. For you see the soul of this man was moved into a realm of compassion for families of victims like myself. Families who have to live with the day-to-day grief that follows such violent acts. Lee Fisher's contact with me over the years has been steady and consistent. For political purposes some might say, but I don't think so, for the lid to Gloria's casket has long since been closed but the concern of Lee Fisher remains. Ohio, we are blessed by God to have Lee Fisher as our next Attorney General. I offer publically, to you Lee, my love and never-ending support. God bless you and your loving family.

JEFFREY D. JOHNSON

9024 PARKGATE AVENUE
CLEVELAND, OHIO 44108

RESIDENCE: 451-9188
CITY HALL: 664-4231

COUNCILMAN 8th WARD

City of Cleveland

Office of the Council

215 City Hall

COMMITTEES:

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

LEGISLATION

REAL PROPERTY

Dear Mrs. Rashid:

The special Public Safety Committee hearing for Resolution No. 260-85, the Rape and Child Abuse Investigative Unit, will be held:

Thursday, February 14th

10:30 A.M. - Room 217

City Hall

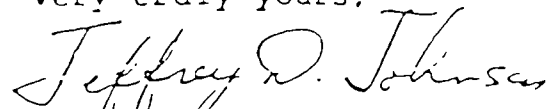
****Public is Invited****

Please note that you are scheduled to testify in your area of rape and/or child abuse during the hearing. You will be asked to give a five to ten minute presentation of your area, which will be followed by questions from the committee.

This hearing is the first step in our attempt to improve the present approach given to rape and child abuse cases in the Greater Cleveland area.

Please call me if there are any questions.

Very truly yours,



Jeffrey D. Johnson
Councilman, Ward 8

JDJ:ajd

KEEP WARD 8 STRONG!

NAME OF SPECIAL UNIT:

The Rape and Child Abuse Unit (R.C.A. Unit)

PURPOSE:

To investigate all crimes of Rape and any violent crimes against children (below 18 years)

A. Abduction, sexual abuse, rape, and other molestation crimes

APPROACH:

Through trained police officers do Crime Analysis.

To provide Victim Support following the crime and during criminal proceedings.

Create and implement an educational preventive program for the general public.

Work with other private/public service organizations - i.e. Rape Crisis Center, County Welfare.

DUTIES:

To perform interviews, criminal investigations, and evidence gathering.

MANPOWER:

1. Unit will consist of six to ten police officers.
2. Will work from Justice Center and be under the power of the Police Chief and Safety Director
3. The unit will be led by an officer with the rank of Captain.

STATEMENT OF ANALYSIS

The Rape and Child Abuse Investigative Unit (R.C.A. Unit) is created to provide an in-house comprehensive approach to the protection of women and children who may become victims of rape and other violent sex crimes.

JEFFREY D. JOHNSON

9024 PARKGATE AVENUE
CLEVELAND, OHIO 44108

RESIDENCE: 451-9186

CITY HALL: 664-4231

COUNCILMAN 8th WARD

City of Cleveland

Office of the Council

216 City Hall

COMMITTEES:

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

LEGISLATION

REAL PROPERTY

February 11, 1985

Dear Mrs. Rashid:

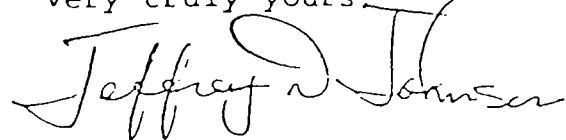
Enclosed please find a copy of Resolution No. 260-85 concerning my proposal for a Rape and Child Abuse Investigative Unit (RCA-Unit) in the Cleveland Police Department.

Additionally, enclosed you will find an analysis of the present system and what changes would be made and information concerning your participation in the special hearing on the RCA-Unit.

If you should have any questions, please feel free to contact me.

Thanking you in advance.

Very truly yours,



Jeffrey D. Johnson
Councilman, Ward 8

JDJ:ajd

Enc.

KEEP WARD 8 STRONG!

United States Senate

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20510

February 12, 1991

Ms. Yvonne Pointer
1366 East 114th
Cleveland, Ohio 44106

Dear Ms. Pointer:

I was pleased to meet you and appreciate this opportunity to review the articles that you have forwarded. I would like to offer you my deepest sympathy on your daughter's death.

I applaud your efforts to increase child safety and to teach crime prevention methods to children. Local communities and the Federal government must work hand in hand to protect children, our greatest resource. In the past, I have supported crime control measures aimed at protecting children and other innocent citizens. Now, I will continue to do so but will keep your daughter's tragic situation in mind.

Again, I appreciate hearing from you. If I can be of assistance in the future, please do not hesitate to contact me again.

Best regards.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "John Glenn". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned above the printed name and title.

John Glenn
United States Senator

JG/ljm

A grieving mother makes difference

By ANNABELL DROZ-BERRIOS
Morning Journal Writer

LORAIN — Some people choose to forget bad experiences, while others use them to help people.

Y v o n n e Pointer has chosen to do the latter.

Ms. Pointer, 38, of Cleveland, is a community activist and a customer service representative for Blue Cross and Blue Shield. She is the mother of Gloria Evett Pointer, the 14-year-old who was abducted, raped and murdered on her way to a Cleveland school in 1984.



POINTER

"Behind the Death of a Child" is a collection of thoughts and poetry from this experience. It will be featured tomorrow at the Crime Awareness Fair, a child abduction prevention program hosted by the Lorain YWCA.

"What is this feeling that I can't escape from? My heart felt like it was a tomato being squeezed through my fingers," said Ms. Pointer of the pain she felt after her daughter's death.

Her urge to ease that pain and prevent other situations like this prompted her to write the book

and get involved with the community.

With the help of city officials, she brought the Midnight Basketball League to Cleveland. Every night from 10 p.m. to 2 a.m.

The Crime Awareness Fair, from 11:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., includes speaker Margaret Mihaljevic, public information officer for Ohio Attorney General Lee Fisher. She is the mother of Amy Mihaljevic, the 10-year-old Bay Village girl abducted and found dead in Ashland County.

The scheduled events for today's free program at the Lorain Family YMCA gym, 200 Ninth St., follow. Refreshments will be available, as well as balloons for children. For more information, call 244-1919.

■ 11:30 a.m. — Lorain Police will fingerprint children.

■ 12:30 p.m. — Carol Welo, instructor for the Community Fund for Missing Youth, an organization started for Amy Mihaljevic, will work with children ages 4-7, showing them a children's instructional videotape.

■ 1:15 p.m. — Welo will talk to children ages 8-15. Children over 15 years old are welcome. During this section videotapes will illustrate the lures strangers use to gain children's friendship or confidence.

■ 2 p.m. — Mrs. Mihaljevic, public information officer for Attorney General Lee Fisher, will speak on the importance of keeping community awareness alive.

■ 2:30 p.m. — A Lorain police officer will instruct parents on organizing a block watch.

■ 3 p.m. — An FBI representative will talk about the agency's involvement with child abductions.

■ 3:30 p.m. — Paulette Lilly from the Lorain County prosecutor's office will discuss how the legal system handles child abduction cases.



City of Cleveland

MICHAEL R. WHITE, MAYOR



May 24, 1991

Ms. Yvonne Pointer
1366 East 114 Street
Cleveland, Ohio 44106

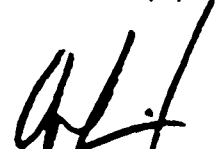
Dear Yvonne:

Through the last several months, I have learned much about myself, our City, and the meaning of true friendship. I have learned that our City is composed of great people who truly value friendships, even in the face of adversity, and that no matter what the obstacle, I must continue to provide as much positive leadership as I can as Mayor.

Please accept my most personal thanks for your support and concern. It's in difficult times that the meaning of true friendship becomes very special.

In the days ahead, I look forward to joining you and other Clevelanders in our shared goal of making our City the very best that it can be. GOD BLESS YOU.

Sincerely yours,



Michael R. White
Mayor

MRW:jj

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YVONNE POINTER

A NEW BALANCE



**ATTORNEY GENERAL LEE FISHER
FOR VICTIMS, FOR JUSTICE**

FIRST ANNUAL PUBLIC OUTREACH MEETING

IN RECOGNITION OF

NATIONAL CRIME VICTIMS' RIGHTS WEEK

ZION CHAPEL MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH
Rev. George O. Stewart, Pastor

SUNDAY, APRIL 21, 1991



ATTORNEY GENERAL LEE FISHER

Lee Fisher, 39, was elected as Ohio's 44th attorney general in 1990, campaigning on a theme of protecting Ohio's families from violent crime, child abuse, and environmental neglect. Attorney General Fisher pledged to be an activist attorney general who would use the powers of the office to combat problems ranging from government corruption to drug abuse and consumer fraud.

As a state legislator who served two years in the Ohio House of Representatives and eight years in the Ohio Senate, Lee Fisher authored more than ten laws including the Racial and Ethnic Intimidation Law, the Missing Children Law, and the Crime Victims Assistance Law.

Lee has a long history of work on crime victims issues. Utilizing the resources of the Crime Victims Compensation Section of the attorney general's office, he will continue to emphasize crime victims programs in Ohio.

Attorney General Fisher, who graduated from Oberlin College and Case Western Reserve School of Law, is a former federal law clerk for the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Sixth Circuit, a former law school instructor and a legal author and lecturer. He practiced law with the Cleveland firm of Hahn Loeser and Parks for 13 years.

Lee Fisher and his wife, Peggy Zone Fisher, president of Zone Travel, Inc., live in Cleveland and have a seven-year old son, Jason.



THE HONORABLE LOUIS STOKES

On November 6, 1968, Louis Stokes was elected Congressman of the 21st Congressional District of Ohio on his first try for public office. By virtue of his election, he became the first Black member of Congress from the State of Ohio. He is currently serving his eleventh term in Congress.

In his second term of office he was appointed the first Black member ever to sit on the Appropriations Committee of the House. On February 8, 1972, Louis Stokes was elected as Chairman of the Congressional Black Caucus. He served two consecutive terms in this office.

In February, 1980, Congressman Stokes was appointed by Speaker O'Neill to the House Committee on Standards of Official Conduct (Ethics Commission). In the 97th and 98th Congresses, he was elected Chairman of this Committee.

In January, 1981, Congressman Stokes became Senior Democratic Representative from Ohio and he serves as the Dean of the eleven member Ohio Democratic Congressional Delegation.

Since being in Congress, Congressman Stokes has been named by Ebony Magazine as one of the 100 Most Influential Black Americans each year since 1971. In 1979, he was nominated by Ebony Magazine in three categories for the Second Annual American Black Achievement Awards.

Lou Stokes and his wife, Jeanette, have four children.

Message To The People of Ohio:

Thank you for joining me in our First Annual Public Outreach Meeting as we proclaim that it's time for "a new balance" between the rights of victims and the rights of the accused. As Ohio's new Attorney General, I have made the preservation of the rights of crime victims one of my highest priorities. We must send a strong message that Ohio is fed up with crime and victimization, and that we are joining forces to take back our streets and our neighborhoods.

PROCESSIONAL
"Marching to Zion"

Invocation Rev. George O. Stewart
Welcome Eleanor Hayes
"Center of My Joy" Zion Chapel Choir
Introduction of Attorney General Lee Fisher Yvonne Pointer
Call for Action Attorney General Lee Fisher

Legislative Officials - Creating "a new balance"

Congressman Louis Stokes
United States Congress

State Senator Eric D. Fingerhut
Ohio Senate

State Representative Vermel M. Whalen
Ohio House of Representatives

Charles L. Patton, Jr.
Councilman, City of Cleveland

"Lord I'll Do It For You" Zion Chapel Choir

Criminal Justice Officials - Working To Create "a new balance"

Stephanie Tubbs-Jones
Prosecutor, Cuyahoga County

Edward P. Kovacic
Chief, Cleveland Police Department

Kenneth Glenn
Deputy Chief, Cuyahoga County Probation Department

Judge Ronald B. Adrine
Cleveland Municipal Court

"All I Need" Zion Chapel Choir

Crime Victims' Services - The Need for "a new balance"

Anita S. Branan
Executive Director, Bellflower Center

Angela Lang Sweeney
Manager, Witness/Victim Service Center

Benediction Rev. George O. Stewart

ProceSSIONAL
"Soon and Very Soon"

RECEPTION
[Lower level of church]

"HOW LONG?"

INTRODUCTION OF ATTORNEY GENERAL LEE FISHER

SUNDAY APRIL 21, 1991

And a mother prayed and said "Oh God, How Long?" How long must this pain be trapped inside my heart. How is it possible Lord that my child could leave home alive and healthy and the next time I view this beautiful child, it is a naked assaulted body behind an apartment building. Lord, How Long?

How long Lord must we as victims continue to be made to feel as if we are the criminals? How long will Gloria's crime remain unsolved, Lord? Lord who will speak for the victims? Who will hear our plea? When will you hear the cry? How Long?

And God said:

My dear child. I hear your prayer and see your tears. I am preparing a man and you shall call him Lee Fisher. A man who will hear the cry of the victims and

sympathize with your pain. Not only will he hear and feel but I am preparing him to do.

And the mother said, Thank you Lord, but **How Long** will it be before this man called Lee Fisher emerges?

And God said:

Not long, for I am bringing him up through the State Senate, preparing him for the position of Attorney General of the State of Ohio among other things. He shall also fight for victims.

And the mother said, Yes Lord but **How Long** before we see him come forth into the Attorney General's position?

And God said:

Not Long, for on November 6, 1990, Lee will win the Ohio Attorney Generals race by 2,866 votes. And on November 22, 1990, Thanksgiving Day, Lee's margin will drop to 412 votes during the official count. And on December 11, 1990, Lee will be declared the official winner of the Ohio Attorney Generals race and the margin will jump to 1,380 votes. On December 20, 1990 after much opposition for a man called Paul Pieffin, Lee will again be declared official

winner of the Ohio Attorney General post by a close 1,234 votes.

And the mother said, Yes Lord, But **How Long?**

And God said:

Not Long, for on January 1, 1991, I shall stand you and this man called Lee Fisher before the state and Lee Fisher will be inaugurated as Ohio's 44th Attorney General. Your presence shall represent a mother's prayer and he shall represent the answer to the prayer.

So Ladies and Gentlemen, I would like to present to some and introduce to others the answer to a prayer, our State Attorney General.....LEE FISHER.

DECLARATIONS OF COMMITMENT

Morning Star Baptist Church
"THE DREAM LIVES ON"
January 20, 1992

First giving honor to GOD, the honorable Mayor Michael R. White, Dr. Earl Preston, Jr., members of the dias, congregation and friends.

I view life as a marathon relay race with a particular runner beginning the race, going a distance and then passing the baton to the next person in line. Very often the initial runner has the finish line in view, but he or she has not been ordained to cross over. When I think of Dr. King, I see him as that initial runner, passing the baton to another with the expectations that they will complete the race.

The Attorney General Lee Fisher, whom along with then State Senator Michael R. White, co-sponsored the Ohio racial and ethnic intimidation law and will now be arguing before the Ohio Supreme Court in March regarding the constitutionality of that statue. This statue is currently under attack by people who do not believe in the dream.

The Attorney General Lee Fisher was unable to attend this program today as he is currently in a battle with the flubug, while his wife Peggy is recuperating from a broken foot. It was with great pleasure that I accepted his request to represent him at this program today. Lee Fisher's request reminded me of Dr. King's dream, because Lee Fisher did not want this program to be interrupted, he sent me. Just as Dr. King has sent many of you to keep the dream alive, because he did not want the program to be interrupted.

DECLARATIONS OF COMMITMENT - These words alone carry enough power to make each of us leave here today and do whatever our hands find to do. Dr. Preston has kept the dream alive with this annual service, but today as a people we need to declare, to make clear, and to openly confess our commitment, our individual acceptance and responsibility to do better and to do more as we leave this building.

Dr. King's dream included equality for all men. I pose these questions to you today:

How have we been able to find such contentment as a race when our cities are plagued by gangs, violence and drugs?

What solutions have we obtained towards establishing and guaranteeing for the longevity of our race?

I proclaim that we as a people have indeed come along way. However, when I look at our local homicide rate for 1991 with 235 murders, of which 168 were young black men, I ask myself and you today, yes, we have come along way, but in what direction?? Are we as a people running with the baton in hand, with the finish line in view or are we running in place, mocking time?

I am reminded of the words of the apostle Paul in Corinthians 9:26 when he said " I therefore so run, not as uncertainty; so fight I, not as one that beateth the air". Paul knew just as Dr. King did the value and importance of time. So as I take my seat, I admonish you, I plead with you to declare your commitment openly toward keeping the dream alive.

Let us also remember that we cannot climb a smooth mountain. Let us use the roughness to stand upon and SEIZE THE DAY! so as Arsenio Hall says so eloquently nightly **LET'S GET BUSY!!!**

Yvonne Pointer

Law Offices of
RAYMOND C. HEADEN
1677 East 40th Street
East 40th Street Professional Building
Cleveland, Ohio 44103
(216) 881-1220
Fax (216) 881-5039

November 11, 1992

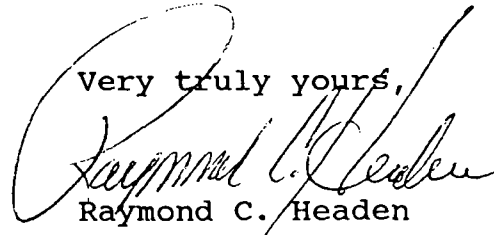
Yvonne Pointer
Office of Attorney General Lee Fisher
615 Superior Avenue N.W.
Cleveland, Ohio 44113

Re: November 10, 1992
Plain Dealer Article

Dear Yvonne:

Congratulations on the article and the work your life represents. You are truly a hero for thousands of young men and young women who need voices like yours to keep the "world" from crashing in on their shoulders. I hope our work together on the Mayor's Black on Black Crime Task Force will also lend a hand, but it is your efforts on the "front line" that keeps us all strong.

Thank you!

Very truly yours,

Raymond C. Headen

RCH/tll.

December 12, 1991

The Cleveland Plain Dealer
c/o Letters to the Editor
1801 Superior Avenue
Cleveland, OH 44114

Dear Editor:

I must say that I was somewhat appalled at the letter written by Thomas A. Fetchik in the Plain Dealer today. There seems to be a direct indication on the part of Mr. Fetchik that violent and vicious crimes only occur in the inner city of Cleveland. I would like to remind Mr. Fetchik of the fact that not too long ago we had a man who drove his truck through a restaurant and began killing--this was not in the inner city. I would further like to remind Mr. Fetchik that in the paper today there is an article about the killing of three law enforcement officers and a sheriff's wife--again, not in the inner city.

I grieve along with the family of Amy Perkins and I am very much aware of the pain and agony of losing a loved one to a violent crime. This is a very difficult time for my family as well, for it was not long ago that my daughter, Gloria Pointer, was abducted, raped, and murdered as she walked to school. My heart goes out to victims since I am clearly aware of the fact that their lives will never be the same. The crime committed against Amy Perkins was senseless and brutal. However, fleeing the city of Cleveland will not provide Mr. Fetchik with the sanction that he seeks. Until he realizes that crime and violence knows no territorial bounds and that until all of us are safe then none of us are safe.

I am sorry for citizens that feel that these crimes only happen to certain people in certain locations. Mayor Michael R. White is not the blame for an age-old problem. I personally feel that Mayor White should be commended for his efforts to restore dignity and security to a city that was backsliding long before he took the oath of office. Instead of Mr. Fetchik criticizing from afar, he should bring his expertise of what is best for Cleveland back to Cleveland get involved with making the city safer. The narrow mindedness of Mr. Fetchik with his comment that 'Mayor White and

Letters to the Editor
December 12, 1991
Page 2

other community leaders had better heed these signals and become very visible in efforts to bring these racial hidden feelings to surface' is a racial comment in itself. For no matter what color the victim, whether black or white, when the blood runs from their bodies and the last breath is taken, all of our pain is the same.

Sincerely,

Yvonne Pointer
1366 East 114th Street
Cleveland, Ohio 44106
216-231-8415 (home)



Letters to the editor

Will we keep ignoring the victims' cries?

The recent brutal murder of Amy Perkins sadly reflects the tremendous problems that exist in and around Cleveland.

The vicious act of rape and murder is, in itself, difficult to comprehend. The tossing of Amy from a moving automobile as though she was a used tissue is inconceivable.

I believe it will do little good to lecture Cleveland Mayor Michael R. White on the flight of people away from the city. It will do little good for me to expect that he can reverse the trend. However, this murder and the violence at the RiverFest are strong signals that the bonds tying men together have broken down in Cleveland.

Mayor White and other community leaders had better heed these signals and become very visible in efforts to bring these racial hidden feelings to the surface where they can be addressed. Using the media and shallow statistics to try and convince everyone that the streets are safe falls well short of what is required. If you continue to ignore the conflicts which are buried deep, all of the stadiums and shopping malls you might build will do nothing toward building a real city.

A city where everyone can feel safe.

A city where everyone can be proud.

My family, friends and business associates will avoid the city until conditions improve and our safety is ensured. It's sad that we have allowed ourselves to restrict the freedoms our forefathers fought so hard to win.

THOMAS A. FETCHER

Crime's pain is equalizer

I was somewhat appalled at the letter written by Thomas A. Fetchik (Dec. 12). There seems to be a direct indication on his part that violent and vicious crimes occur only in the inner city of Cleveland. I would like to remind Fetchik that not too long ago a man drove his truck through a restaurant and began killing; this was not in the inner city. I would further to remind Fetchik that in the paper (Oct. 12) there is an article about the killing of three law-enforcement officers and a sheriff's wife — again, not in the inner city.

I grieve, along with the family of Amy Perkins, and I am very much aware of the pain and agony of losing a loved one to a violent crime. This is a very difficult time for my family as well, for it was not long ago that my daughter, Gloria Pointer, was abducted, raped, and murdered as she walked to school. My heart goes out to victims, since I am clearly aware of the fact that their lives will never be the same. The crime committed against Amy Perkins was senseless and brutal. However, until Fetchik realizes that crime and violence know no territorial bounds and that until all of us are safe, none of us is safe.

I am sorry for citizens that feel that these crimes only happen to certain people in certain locations. Mayor Michael R. White is not to blame for an age-old problem. I personally feel that White should be commended for his efforts to restore dignity and security to a city that was backsliding long before he took the oath of office. Instead of Fetchik criticizing from afar, he should bring his expertise of what is best for Cleveland back to Cleveland and get involved with making the city safer. The narrow-mindedness of Fetchik with his comment that, "Mayor White and other community leaders had better heed these signals and become very visible in efforts to bring these racial hidden feelings to surface" is a racial com-

ment in itself. For no matter what color the victim, when the blood runs from their bodies and the last breath is taken, all of our pain is the same.

YVONNE POINTER
Cleveland

WHY ARE task forces developed to stop the murders of Arab-American store owners and not senseless black-on-black crime?

I am not pleased at all with the way the media and the city administration have covered the murders of Arab-American store owners. Assigning a special task force to protect the Arabs was too much for me to take.

I can understand the urgency of stopping crime and murder in our city, especially to those who make an honest living. However, if one can't walk to the neighborhood store without worrying about a drive-by, or rape, or some stupid crime, what is most important? Safety is a problem throughout Cleveland.

Crimes have plagued our communities for years.

Robberies and murders of Arab-American store owners are not racial; it has never been a fact of race. If anything, it has been a fact of class: Those who have it vs. those who have not.

Tilting these crimes toward racial bias and assigning a special force of extra police seems to imply that there is some sort of conspiracy in the black community that is aimed toward Arabs. This creates further tensions between races and enhances the belief that minorities are problematic in the city.

MAURICE D. RUDD
Cleveland

THE GLORIA POINTER SCHOLARSHIP

AWARD

CLEVELAND PUBLIC SCHOOLS

1380 East Sixth Street, Cleveland, Ohio 44114

Telephone 216/574-8210

Facsimile 216/574-8108

THOMAS C. SIMIELE

General Counsel

JUDITH K. KOCH

General Counsel

FRANK J. HUML

Superintendent

June 11, 1990

Ted Kowalski
Assistant Treasurer

Re: Gloria Pointer Reward Fund

Dear Mr. Kowalski:

Mrs. Pointer was appointed Administratrix of her daughter's estate, and the assets for the Gloria Pointer Reward Fund have been ordered by the Court to be turned over to her. A copy of the Court Order relieving the estate from administration and authorizing the disbursement of funds held by the Cleveland Board of Education in the Gloria Pointer Reward Fund to Yvonne Pointer is attached.

I suggest that you have a check prepared to Yvonne Pointer with the current balance of the reward fund. The check should be forwarded to my office for release to Mrs. Pointer at your earliest convenience.



Thomas C. Simiele

TCS/ems

Attachment

cc: Frank J. Huml, Superintendent
Paul Yacobian, Treasurer
Mrs. Yvonne Pointer



**Cleveland
Scholarship
Programs, Inc.**
Educational Opportunity
through Financial Aid
and Counsel

1380 East Sixth Street
Cleveland, Ohio 44114-1606
(216) 241-5587

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Career/Career Services

June 21, 1989

Ms. Yvonne Pointer
1366 East 114th Street
Cleveland, Ohio 44106

Dear Ms. Pointer:

CSP is highly appreciative of the scholarship fund you would like to establish in the honor and memory of your daughter Gloria.

In connection with this contribution of approximately \$4,500, we propose to create the "Gloria Pointer Scholarship Fund". As we discussed, the general guidelines will be as follows: (1) CSP will award \$500 annually, beginning in August of 1990, to a student who is a CSP finalist. (2) We will select three students from our finalist pool and present their credentials to you. You will choose one to receive this non-renewable award. (3) The \$500 award will be made from the net income earned on your gift to the extent there is income generated, and any difference will be subtracted from the original principal.

It is our understanding you will attempt to increase the original dollar amount of your gift with periodic contributions to the "Gloria Pointer Scholarship Fund". There will be no administrative charge to you for our service. However, at the end of ten years, should the fund be depleted to the point the administrative tasks are comparatively greater than the funds justify, CSP requests the remaining balance be absorbed into the general

James Marino

Cleveland
Scholarship
Programs, Inc.

Ms. Yvonne Pointer
June 21, 1989
Page 2 of 2

scholarship pool. CSP is a qualified public charity with the Internal Revenue Service and is listed as such in the United States Treasury Publication.

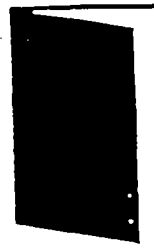
All of us at CSP appreciate your consideration of us and of the students in Cleveland who will benefit from the establishment of this fund. It will serve as a wonderful memorial to your daughter.

Very truly yours,



Christina R. Milano
Executive Director

cc: P. L. Jones
H. Steindler
J. Storey



**Cleveland
Scholarship
Programs, Inc.**

Educational Opportunity
through Financial Aid
and Counsel

2000 East Ninth St., Suite 1020
Cleveland, Ohio 44115-1300
(216) 241-5587
FAX: 241-6184

September 6, 1991

Mrs. Yvonne Pointer
1366 East 114th Street
Cleveland, Ohio 44106

Dear Yvonne:

Enclosed is a current statement of income earned and scholarships awarded from the Gloria Pointer Scholarship Fund. As you can see, there is \$3,234.00 remaining in the endowment to support future students.

Juanita Storey told me you selected Jawana Hawkins as the recipient this year. By the time you receive this, I hope you will have had a chance to get together with her. As you know, the one on one support you offer these young people is every bit as important as the scholarship.

Please call me if you have any questions or concerns. I hope things are going well for you.

Best regards,

Christina Ryan Milano
Executive Director

Enclosure

CRM/jan

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Ralph S. Tyler

Christina Ryan Milano
Executive Director

Denise Largent Roberts
Development

Juanita C. Storey
Financial Aid/Advisory Services

Dorothy J. Valerian
Public Relations

Grace S. Weidenthal
College/Career Services

Cleveland
Scholarship
Programs, Inc.

Gloria Pointer Scholarship
Candidates 1990-91

Tawanna Clark - 2184 E. 83 St. (03) West Tech

Tawanna is a solid student and her pre-college test scores are slightly above average. She had perfect attendance at West Tech. Her extra-curricular activities included the Drill Team, Yearbook, Softball and the Young Scholars Club of which she was president. She also participated in the Upward Bound Program and should be well prepared for college.

Tawanna plans to major in Business Administration at Tuskegee University, Defiance College, or the University of Akron.

She comes from a family of seven; her father is retired and her mother works at a local nursing home.

Diane Dixon - 1662 Glenmont (18) West Tech

Diane maintained a 3.0 grade point average while working 20 hours per week to support herself. Her pre-college test scores are average. In high school, she participated as a majorette, a nurse aid, and a Young Scholars Club member. She received awards for art, science and citizenship and was on the merit and honor rolls during her high school years.

Diane plans to major in biology at John Carroll University.

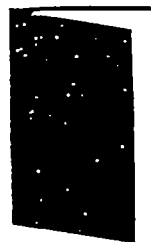
Her father is deceased and she had a legal guardian until March, 1989. Since that time, she has been self-supporting.

Lashawna Thornton - 4011 E. 128 St. (28) John Hay

Lashawna is a good student with average pre-college test scores. She was involved in several extra-curricular activities including the Red Cross Blood Drive, Students Against Drunk Drivers (SADD), the Yearbook and the Prom Committee. She won awards of excellence in Spanish and History and also had perfect attendance.

Lashawna plans to major in Psychology at John Carroll University or the University of Akron.

She lives with her mother and younger brother. Her mother is divorced and, unfortunately, recently became unemployed.



Cleveland
Scholarship
Programs, Inc.

Educational Opportunity
through Financial Aid
and Counsel

2000 East Ninth St., Suite 1020
Cleveland, Ohio 44115-1300
(216) 241-5587
FAX: 241-6184

September 10, 1991

Mrs. Yvonne Pointer
1366 East 114th Street
Cleveland, OH 44106

Dear Mrs. Pointer:

Cleveland Scholarship Programs (CSP) has received a gift to the Gloria Pointer Scholarship Fund from The Black Professional Association Foundation.

As we enter our 25th year, CSP has assisted nearly 69,000 students in accessing, financing, and completing their postsecondary educations. This gift makes it possible for us to continue this mission.

This tribute has been acknowledged with sincere appreciation.

Sincerely,

Denise L. Roberts

Denise Largent Roberts
Director of Development

DLR:lr

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Cleveland
Scholarship
Programs, Inc.

Educational Opportunity
through Financial Aid
and Counsel

2000 East Ninth St., Suite 1020
Cleveland, Ohio 44115-1300
(216) 241-5587
FAX: 241-6184

September 25, 1992

Mrs. Yvonne Pointer
1366 East 114th St.
Cleveland, OH 44106

Dear Mrs. Pointer:

Enclosed is a list of students we suggest you consider as recipients of the Gloria Pointer Scholarship Award for 1992-93. We have talked and worked with all of them and feel that any one of the three young ladies profiled would be an excellent choice.

Please let us know of your decision. You may wish to call Mary Louise Nixon with your choice or to ask her for additional details on the students.

We are honored to work with you in this program.

Very truly yours,

Christina R. Milano
Executive Director

Enclosure

cc: M.L. Nixon

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Ruben L. Holloway
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Philip M. Shupe
Robert L. Soltz

Christina Ryan Milano
Executive Director

Denise Largent Roberis
Development/Communications

Mary Louise Nixon
Financial Aid/Advisory Services

Grace S. Weidenthal
College/Career Services

25TH
ANNIVERSARY
1967-1992

IRENE HARRIS - 11821 Mount Overlook (20) John Hay

Irene has an excellent high school grade point average and earned an average score on the pre-college admissions test. She ranked in the top 10% of her graduating class and is described by the CSP advisor as being "quiet and unassuming, but very steady" in her goals and aspirations. Her extra-curricular activities included being a member of the softball team, National Honor Society, Big-Buddy/Little-Buddy Club, Christian Youth Council, and the Teen Club.

Irene will attend Fisk university and there she plans to major in engineering.

She is from a single parent family and the parent is disabled.

NOVELLA SHELTON - 9710 Cumberland (04) West Tech

Novella earned an above average grade point average at West Tech and ranked 48 in her graduating class of 241. Novella was involved in many interscholastic sports including track & field, cross-country, volleyball, basketball and soccer. She also participated on the yearbook staff, prom committee and executive board.

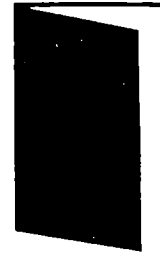
Novella plans to attend Dyke College and will major in accounting. She comes from a single parent low-income family.

YASHILA SULTAN - 1318 Lakeview #2 (06) John Hay

Yashila ranked in the top 10% of her graduating class and earned an excellent academic record during her four years at John Hay. She is gifted in track & field and lettered for three consecutive years. Yashila has aspirations of making the 1996 USA olympic team to compete in Atlanta, Ga. Her long range goal is to become a corporate lawyer.

Yashila is attending Wittenberg University where she will major in business and/or pre-law.

She comes from a low income family of four.



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Scholarship
Programs, Inc.

Educational Opportunity
through Financial Aid
and Counsel

2000 East Ninth St., Suite 1020
Cleveland, Ohio 44115-1300
(216) 241-5587
FAX. 241-6184

June 4, 1993

Mrs. Yvonne Pointer
Regional Liaison for the Attorney General
State Office Building
615 West Superior Avenue
Cleveland, OH 44113-1899

Dear Yvonne,

I have enclosed a list of students we suggest you consider for the Gloria Pointer Memorial Scholarship Award for 1993-94. Our advisors at West Tech and John Hay have worked with all three of the young ladies profiled and have recommended them highly.

Please let us know of your decision. You may wish to call Mary Louise Nixon with your selection or to ask for additional details on the students.

We are honored to work with you in this program.

Very truly yours,

Christina Ryan Milano
Executive Director

CRM/ljr

Enclosure

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Sammie Campbell Parrish
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Robert H. Rawson, Jr.
Patrick D. Savage
John A. Shields
Philip M. Shupe
Robert L. Soltz

Christina Ryan Milano
Executive Director

Denise Largent Roberts
Associate Director

Alison J. Burner
Community Affairs

Marcettes L. Cunningham
*Advisory Services/Campus
Representative Coordinator*

Judith D. Jones
Mentor Program Coordinator

Mary Louise Nixon
Financial Aid/Advisory Services

Grace S. Weidenthal
College/Career Services Coordinator

Cleveland
Scholarship
Programs, Inc.

LATISHA HARRIS - 2338 East 101 Street (06)

John Hay

Latisha had a good high school grade point average and earned an average score on the pre-college admission test. She elected challenging college preparatory classes and ranked in the top 15% of her graduating class. Her CSP advisor describes her as being "eager to attend college and prove herself." Her extracurricular activities include softball, basketball, student council and drama club.

Latisha plans to attend Cleveland State University and major in engineering. She has been interviewed for the LINK mentoring program at CSU.

She is from a single parent low-income family.

TEMICA HARDING - 4531 Martin L. King Blvd. (05)

John Hay

Temica had a strong high school grade point average and earned an average score on the pre-college admission test. She elected college preparatory classes including honors physics and ranked in the top 10% of her class of 197 students. Her CSP advisor described her as a quiet, outstanding student. In high school she participated in basketball, volleyball, the mediation program and the drill team. Temica was a member of the National Honor Society.

Temica plans to attend Ursuline College in the fall and major in pre-med.

She is from a single parent low-income family and is the oldest of three children.

TARA RANZY - 7347 East 86th St. (06)

West Tech

Tara ranked in the top 20% of her graduating class of 257 and had above average grades in a college preparatory program. Her pre-college admission test scores were average. While in school Tara was captain of the volleyball and basketball teams, president of Big Buddy-Little Buddy, secretary of the Scholars Club and a member of S.A.D.D. and T.E.A.M.S. Her CSP advisor indicated that Tara has a high regard for education and an impeccable attendance record throughout the year.

Tara plans to attend either the University of Rochester or John Carroll University and major in psychology.

She is from a single parent low-income family and is the oldest of three children.

Mother's loss used to help others

By S.L. Smith

It is a mother's worst nightmare. Her child leaves for school one day, and doesn't come home at the usual time.

A phone call, and the world is turned upside down.

Yvonne Pointer lived through such an ordeal. Her daughter, Gloria, left for school at Harry E. Davis Intermediate School one day four years ago and never returned.

Her body was found but not her killer.

AT THE TIME of Gloria's murder, the Cleveland Board of Education and Cleveland City Council set aside almost \$10,000 for a reward for information which would lead to the arrest and conviction of the person responsible for Gloria's death. No one came forward.

After four years of waiting and wondering, Yvonne Pointer would like to see something done with the money.

"I cannot think of a better way for my daughter's memory to be kept than to have a scholarship in her name," she told the board of education.

The funds in the board of education trust fund amount to \$4,100. According to Thomas Simiele, general

See LOSS, page A3

Loss

from page A1

counsel for the board, the money was set aside to be used as a reward.

Should the board wish to modify the purpose of the trust, then they have to petition Cuyahoga County Probate Court.

He told board members that the Cleveland Police Department is still investigating the crime and that several leads have turned up. He advised it might be premature to modify the trust at this time.

"My concern has always been, what is the point of having the reward if no one knows about it?" questioned Pointer.

"If the money is just going to sit there, then let a deserving student get some use of it."

SHE RELATED the story of a ride she took recently on a bus. She sat next to a student from East High

wanted to become a nurse. Pointer said she encouraged the student and told her to strive for excellence. Pointer encouraged the girl to become valedictorian of her class if possible and to do the best she could in college.

"That's what I would tell my daughter if she were alive," said Pointer with tears in her eyes. "I told her not to become pregnant, to stay away from drugs. She said, 'I wish I could hug you.' I told her she could hug me and we embraced on that bus. Wouldn't it be wonderful if that money could be used for nursing school for that student?"

Board members expressed sympathy for Pointer and asked Simiele to look into petitioning the court.

"Being a mother, you carry that burden and you just want it to end and something positive to happen," said Board President Mildred Madison.

"This is a bad season for us and families like...

HONORS AND AWARDS OF

MS YVONNE POINTER

Yvonne Pointer was born in Cleveland, Ohio, on December 28, 1952. The fourth oldest of ten children of Henderson and Luella Pointer. Yvonne's oldest daughter, Gloria Pointer, was abducted, raped and murdered on December 6, 1984. Gloria's murder remains unsolved. Since the death of her daughter, Gloria, Yvonne has worked untiringly towards safer communities in and out of the City of Cleveland. She is often called upon to offer words of consolation and compassion to families that have been victimized by violent acts of crime. Yvonne has appeared on television shows on many occasions, exposing herself to the killer of her daughter without hesitation. She keeps in the forefront of her mind that "yes, she is often afraid, but she is more afraid of not doing anything". She is thoroughly convinced that the problems of drugs, violence and gangs will not just go away by themselves. Her motto is "if it is to be, it is up to me". She is often asked can one person make a difference? Many people think not, but not Yvonne Pointer. When she learned of a proven program in Chicago, Illinois, The Midnight Basketball Program, she waged a one woman campaign to make this program a reality in Cleveland, Ohio. The end result of her dedication was a successful eight week program at the Lonnie Burten and Thurgood Marshall Recreation Centers where over 144 young men played basketball and attended workshops between the hours of 10:00 p.m. to 2:00 a.m. twice a week. During the course of this program, the crime rate was reduced by 54% in the surrounding area and there was not one incident of reported violence. There were up to 200-300 spectators in the gym on any given night. With the assistance of Mayor Michael R. White, Commissioner Wayne B. Moss, his staff and Yvonne

Pointer, a solution was formed. Mayor Michael R. White has titled Yvonne Pointer as the "Mother of Midnight Basketball" in Cleveland, Ohio. As a direct result of her efforts, Yvonne Pointer was recognized on September 30, 1992, by President George Bush as the 908th Point of Light. The President's Thousand Points of Light is intended as a national tribute of the highest order to every American who makes a positive difference, each day the President recognizes those who are successfully addressing our most pressing social problems through community service. Individuals, families, businesses, groups, and organizations of every conceivable type are taking direct and consequential action to combat drug abuse, illiteracy, inadequate education, environmental decay, homelessness, hunger, AIDS, and other critical ills. The President urges all Americans to make serving others central to their life and work. "If you have a hammer, find a nail. If you know how to read, find someone who can't. If you're not in trouble, seek out someone who is. Because everywhere there is a need in America, there is a way to fill it. . . . There is no problem in America that is not being solved somewhere." She was inducted on November 7, 1991, by Ohio's Governor George Voinovich into the Ohio Women's Hall of Fame joining such people as Judy Resnick, Dorothy Fuldheim, Ruby Dee, Nikki Giovanni, Doris Day and many more famous Ohio women. Yvonne was awarded a lovely trophy during an induction ceremony hosted by Governor and Mrs. George Voinovich. On April 19, 1993, she was recognized by the Federal Bureau of Investigation as one of the national recipients of the Directors Community Leadership Award.

Yvonne was also one of the fifteen point of light recipients in the City of Cleveland

for 1991. The Mayor, Michael R. White, honored these fifteen Clevelanders for their volunteerism to the city. Yvonne's name along with the others was placed permanently in the rotunda of city hall. Yvonne was also honored for her volunteerism by the Cleveland Jay C's and received the 1990 Volunteer of the Year Award. She is listed in the Outstanding Young Women of America's 1989 listing. She was named as the Neighbor of the Month from Channel 8 and N.A.R.I. in which she received complete exterior home remodelization at no cost. Yvonne has also received numerous awards and certificates of recognitions for her dedication and support for her volunteer services to our city. She was featured in the April 1993 edition of Essence Magazine, in an article entitled "Great Comebacks". She is the mother of two children, Raymon and Denyelle. She is the founder of The Positive Plus Support Group, P.A.C.K. (Parents Against Child Killing), she is an active member of P.O.M.C. (Parents of Murdered Children), she is a mentor for students in the Cleveland Public School System. She has established the Gloria Pointer Scholarship Fund in which she awards a \$500.00 scholarship annually to inner city children. She gives out the Gloria Pointer Athletic Award annually at Harry E. David Junior High. This award goes to the most athletic student. Ms. Pointer has recently added a monetary award of \$50.00 to the trophy. She is currently working for the Attorney General of the State of Ohio, Lee Fisher. She serves as a Regional Liaison for the following counties: Cuyahoga, Wayne, Summit, Medina, Lake and Geauga. Yvonne Pointer can be summed up mostly by using the words of our own Mayor Michael R. White, "she is a lady that can walk with senators and then turn around and hold the hand of a crack addict".

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

September 30, 1992

Dear Ms. Pointer:

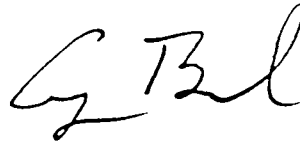
I was delighted to learn of your outstanding work in behalf of your community. Your generosity and willingness to serve others merit the highest praise, and I am pleased to recognize you as the 908th "Daily Point of Light."

Since taking office as President, I have urged all Americans to make community service central to their lives and work. Judging by your active engagement in helping others, it is clear that you understand this obligation.

We must not allow ourselves to be measured by the sum of our possessions or the size of our bank accounts. The true measure of any individual is found in the way he or she treats others -- and the person who regards others with love, respect, and charity holds a priceless treasure in his heart. With that in mind, I have often noted that, from now on in America, any definition of a successful life must include serving others. Your efforts provide a shining example of this standard.

Barbara joins me in congratulating you and in sending you our warm best wishes for the future. May God bless you always.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "G. H. W. Bush", written in a cursive style.

Ms. Yvonne Pointer
1366 East 114th Street
Cleveland, Ohio 44106

U.S. Department of Justice
Federal Bureau of Investigation



Director's Community Leadership Award

Presented to:

Yvonne Pointer

In recognition of your outstanding contribution to your community in the prevention of Drug Abuse. Through your unselfish dedication and Leadership, our Nation moves closer to a Drug - Free America.

In deepest appreciation,

William J. Sessions
Director, FBI

United States Senate

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20510

February 12, 1991

Ms. Yvonne Pointer
1366 East 114th
Cleveland, Ohio 44106

Dear Ms. Pointer:

I was pleased to meet you and appreciate this opportunity to review the articles that you have forwarded. I would like to offer you my deepest sympathy on your daughter's death.

I applaud your efforts to increase child safety and to teach crime prevention methods to children. Local communities and the Federal government must work hand in hand to protect children, our greatest resource. In the past, I have supported crime control measures aimed at protecting children and other innocent citizens. Now, I will continue to do so but will keep your daughter's tragic situation in mind.

Again, I appreciate hearing from you. If I can be of assistance in the future, please do not hesitate to contact me again.

Best regards.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "John Glenn".

John Glenn
United States Senator

JG/ljm



The Mayor's Award for Volunteerism
3100 Euclid Avenue, Cleveland, Ohio 44115 (216) 361-1010

April 12, 1991

Ms. Yvonne Pointer
1366 East 114th
Cleveland, Ohio 44106

Dear Ms. Pointer:

On behalf of the Mayor's Office and the entire City of Cleveland, I would like to congratulate you for being a recipient of the Mayor's Award for Volunteerism.

On April 8th judges from the community met in my office to make the final selections. You along with 14 other individuals and groups from various sectors of the community were chosen as recipients of the award. Among many outstanding nominations and volunteer efforts your volunteer effort stands out as exceptional.

An Award's Presentation will take place on April 23rd in City Hall. I would like to invite you and all your guests to this event. A permanent placque bearing your name will be affixed to the City Hall walls. If we have not already contacted you, please give us a call at 664-3660 so that we can reserve the seats you will need.

Once again, congratulations on being chosen a winner of the Mayor's Award for Volunteerism. I look forward to meeting you at the Award's Ceremony.

Sincerely,

Michael R. White
Mayor



STATE OF OHIO
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

COLUMBUS 43266-0601

GEORGE V. VOINOVICH
GOVERNOR

September 18, 1991

Ms Yvonne Pointer
1366 East 114th Street
CLEVELAND OH 44106

Dear Ms Pointer:

It is my personal pleasure to inform you that you have been selected for induction into the Ohio Women's Hall of Fame. Please accept my congratulations as a 1991 inductee.

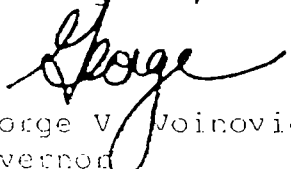
The annual Ohio Women's Hall of Fame was established in 1978 by the Women's Division of the Ohio Bureau of Employment Services. It has honored 172 women who have unselfishly helped shape the cultural, educational, economical, political and scientific fields for the betterment of all people. Among these women include television news broadcaster Dorothy Fuldheim, astronaut Judith Resnick, authors Toni Morrison and Erma Bombeck, actress Ruby Dee, and Vietnam Veterans Memorial designer Maya Lin. Therefore, it is personally very rewarding to be able to add your name to this list of outstanding Ohio women.

Even though more than 100 women were nominated this year, your perseverance, commitment and leadership in establishing Parents of Murdered Children have distinguished you for this special recognition. We are hopeful that by highlighting your accomplishments, we will instill an interest in other women -- young and old alike -- to join you in your efforts.

This year's awards ceremony will be held in Columbus on November 7. The Director of the Women's Division, Carol J. Porter, will be contacting you soon to provide more information about the event. If you have questions in the meantime, please do not hesitate to contact her at (614) 466-4496.

Again, my heartfelt congratulations to you. Janet and I are very proud of you and look forward to seeing you on November 7.

Warm regards,


George V. Voinovich
Governor

Ohio Women's Hall of Fame

Berenice Abbott	Charity Edna Earley	Virginia L. Kunkle	Lottie Randolph
Mary L. Jobe Akeley	Barbara J. Easterling	Joan E. Lamson	Rachel Redinger
Florence E. Allen	Ann Eriksson	Hattie L. Larlham	Judith Resnik
Harriet J. Anderson	Louisa K. Fast	Bea V. Larsen	Virginia J. Ruehlmann
Margaret J. Andrew	Alicia G. Fernandez	Mary K. Lazarus	Helen Santmyer
Earladeen Badger	Bernice W. Foley	Emily L. Leedy	Ludel B. Sauvageot
Kathleen L. Barber	Dorothy Fuldheim	Alice Lev	Lauretta M. Schimmoler
Mildred Bayer	Marilyn H. Gaston	Katherine S. LeVeque	Margaret "Marge" Schott
Grace F. Berlin	Sister Mary Ignatia Gavin	Maya Lin	Josephine L. Schwarz
Mary Ann Ball Bickerdyke	Ann Gazelle	Ruth Lyons	Phyllis Shapiro Sewell
Anna Ash Biggins	Zelma George	Anne Variano Macko	Fanchon bat-Lillian Shur
Ione Biggs	Nikki Giovanni	Dr. Carolyn Mahoney	Eleanor Smeal
Fay R. Biles	Lillian Gish	Margaret A. Mahoney	Linda Rocker Sogg
Dr. Eula Bingham	Mary Hooker Glendinning	Barbara A. Mandel	Jayne Baker Spain
Tina Marie Bishchoff	Aurora L. Gonzalez	Dr. Norma Marcere	Marian Spencer
Helen Chatfield Black	Jewel Freeman Graham	Helen Grace McClelland	Charlene Spretnak
Elizabeth Blackwell	Jeanette G. Grasselli Brown	Barbara Janis Megargel	Mary "Jen" Steinbrenner
Frances P. Bolton	Michelle Y?Graves	Agnes S. Merritt	Gloria Steinem
Erma Bombeck	Dr. Esther M. Greisheimer	Lucille Gregg Middleton	Bobbie Sterne
A. Margaret Boyd	Cathy Guisewite	Mary E. Miller	Ella Stewart
Elizabeth M. Boyer	Sara J. Harper	Ruth R. Miller	Phebe Temperance Sutliff
Mary O. Boyle	Sarah E. Harris	Jerrie Mock	Ethel G. Swanbeck
Harriet Bracken	Florence Harshman	Martha C. Moore	Suzanne Timken
Hallie Quinn Brown	Sister Donna L. Hawk	Toni Morrison	Marian Trimble
Patricia M. Byrne	Mariwyn Heath	Helen Warner Mulholland	Jean Starr Untermeyer
G. Maxine Carnahan	Louise McCarren Herring	Dr. Linda James Myers	Harriet Taylor Upton
Tracy Chapman	June A. Holley	Amelia Nava	Carolyn G. Utz
B. Marie Clarke	Eusebia Hunkins	Mary Louise Soltes Nemeth	Marigene Valiquette
Beatrice Cleveland	Jane Edna Hunter	Cindy Noble	Charlene Ventura
Patricia L. Clonch	Josephine Irwin	Andre Norton	June Vereeke-Hutt
Lois Anna Barr Cook	Grace Goulder Izant	Karen Nussbaum	Nancy Vetrone
Martha Kinney Cooper	Dorothy O. Jackson	Mary Rose Oakar	Ann Walker
Sally Cooper	Luella Talmadge Jackson	Annie Oakley	Selma Lois Walker
Dorothy Cornelius	Rebecca D. Jackson	Darlene M. Owens	Julia Curry Montgomery Walsh
Mercedes Cotner	Eleanor Jammal	Rose L. Papier	Stella Walsh
Betsy Mix Cowles	Lillian Janis	Helen H. Peterson	Anita Smith Ward
Norma B. Craden	Carol Heiss Jenkins	Emma Phaler	Faye Wattleton
Ruth Porter Crawford	Geraldine Jensen	Sister Catherine Pinkerton	Doris Martha Weber
Eva Mae Parker Crosby	Janet Kalven	Martha J. Pituch	Clara E. Weisenborn
Doris Day	Carol Kane	Minnie Player	Marion S. Wells
Jo Ann Davidson	Rosabeth Moss Kanter	Willia Player	Marjorie Whiteman
Ruby Dee	Marcy Kaprur	Yvonne Pointer	Grayce E. Williams
Raquel Diaz-Sprague	Edith M. Keller	Jennie Davis Porter	Nancy Wilson
Phyllis Diller	Tella Kitchen	Diane W. Poulton	Dr. Freda Gerwin Winning
Gertrude W. Donahey	Sister M. Consolata Kline	Renee Powell	Mary Ellen Withrow
Rita Dove	Bernice Kochan	Margaret Arline Webb Pratt	Joyce Wollenberg
Zell Draz	Blanche Krupansky	Anastasia N. Przelomski	Stella Marie Scarano Zannoni
Sister Cynthia Drennan	Maggie Kuhn	Virginia M. Purdy	Helen Zerkowitz

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

September 28, 1992

Dear Ms. Pointer,

Congratulations on being recognized by President Bush as the 908th Daily Point of Light for the Nation.

I have enclosed an explanation of the President's Points of Light movement and booklets which summarize the Daily Points of Light recognized to date. You will receive, under separate cover, a copy of the press release that we distribute to local and national media.

Our office would like to maintain a continuing relationship with you. We look forward to receiving additional information regarding your outstanding community service efforts. If you need further assistance, please feel free to contact Miah Homstad, Daily Point of Light Coordinator, or me at (202) 456-6266. Once again, congratulations and keep up the good work.

Sincerely,

Karen Barnes

Karen Barnes
Office of National Service

Ms. Yvonne Pointer
1366 East 114th Street
Cleveland, Ohio 44106

Enclosures

THE WHITE HOUSE

Office of the Press Secretary

For Immediate Release

September 30, 1992

The President today recognized Yvonne Pointer of Cleveland, Ohio, as the 908th Daily Point of Light for the Nation. Ms. Pointer volunteers her time to ensure a decent, crime free, and safe community environment.

Since the rape and murder of her daughter in 1984, Ms. Pointer has worked to prevent the murder of children and to comfort the families of murder victims. In 1985, she founded Parents Against Child Killing, a support group for parents grieving the death of a child. Ms. Pointer is "on call" to offer emotional support, advice, and a listening ear to 25 parents. She shares personal grief experiences and emotions, often referring family members to support groups and other resources in the community. She is an active member of Parents of Murdered Children, a monthly support group. She and other parents speak to students, prisoners, and community groups about family loss from urban violence.

In 1991, Ms. Pointer helped establish a Midnight Basketball League in Cleveland to provide structured, recreational activities for young men ages 18 to 25 from 10:00 p.m. to 2:00 a.m., four nights a week. The goal of Midnight Basketball is to reduce the crime rate in the inner-city and to offer young men positive lifestyle choices and alternatives to violence and crime. According to Ms. Pointer, last year the area crime rate dropped 54 percent. The players participate in workshops given by local volunteer professionals on career choices, job development programs, AIDS awareness, and crime prevention. Ms. Pointer, the Commissioner of the League, organizes the activities with the help of other volunteers and supervises the games and workshops. She has developed supportive friendships with many of the young men, baking them cakes and other treats to express her interest and concern.

The President salutes Yvonne Pointer for exemplifying his belief that, "From now on in America, any definition of a successful life must include serving others."

#

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Miah Homstad or Karen Barnes
(202) 456-6266

Yvonne Pointer
Attorney General Lee Fisher
State Office Building
615 West Superior Avenue, 12th Floor
Cleveland, OH 44113-1899
(216) 787-3030

**Certificate
of Recognition**

Presented to

Yvonne Pointer

**In Honor
and Recognition of**

**Being Recognized by President Bush as the
908th Daily Point of Light for the Nation**

Date **September 30, 1992**



LEE FISHER
Attorney General

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

September 30, 1992

Dear Ms. Pointer:

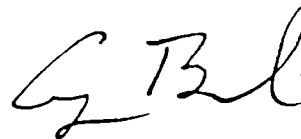
I was delighted to learn of your outstanding work in behalf of your community. Your generosity and willingness to serve others merit the highest praise, and I am pleased to recognize you as the 908th "Daily Point of Light."

Since taking office as President, I have urged all Americans to make community service central to their lives and work. Judging by your active engagement in helping others, it is clear that you understand this obligation.

We must not allow ourselves to be measured by the sum of our possessions or the size of our bank accounts. The true measure of any individual is found in the way he or she treats others -- and the person who regards others with love, respect, and charity holds a priceless treasure in his heart. With that in mind, I have often noted that, from now on in America, any definition of a successful life must include serving others. Your efforts provide a shining example of this standard.

Barbara joins me in congratulating you and in sending you our warm best wishes for the future. May God bless you always.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to be "G. H. W. Bush", written in a cursive style.

Ms. Yvonne Pointer
1366 East 114th Street
Cleveland, Ohio 44106

**NEWS
RELEASE****CLEVELAND DIVISION
Federal Bureau of Investigation**

April 19, 1993

Date _____

787-3480

THOMAS F. JONES, Special Agent in Charge, Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI), Cleveland, Ohio, is pleased to announce that YVONNE POINTER is the recipient of the FBI Director's Community Leadership Award. Ms. POINTER, a Cleveland resident, is the third annual recipient of this most prestigious award. Previous awardees were CURTIS WEATHERS and LARRY NANCE.

To be considered for this leadership award, an individual must be deeply committed to furthering drug prevention, education, and awareness throughout their respective communities.

Ms. POINTER exemplifies such a person. Her personal contribution and sacrifice are to be admired and respected.

In 1984, Ms. POINTER's teenage daughter was raped and murdered on her way to school on Cleveland's east side. Within months after the tragedy, which is still unsolved, Ms. POINTER established a group called Parents Against Child Killing. This is a continuing support group which provides information and counseling.

Ms. POINTER also established the Gloria Pointer Memorial Scholarship (in memory of her daughter), which provides \$500.00 each year to financially needy college bound students from the Cleveland public schools.

Ms. POINTER was instrumental in establishing a midnight basketball league in the City of Cleveland. Participants in this league are young men (age 17-25) who play basketball in the fall of the year from 10:00 P.M. until 2:00 A.M. In addition to playing basketball, the youngsters must participate in continuing education, job training programs, and anti-drug programs. Ms. POINTER is affectionately known as "The Mother of Cleveland Midnight Basketball".

During the Fall of 1991, Ms. POINTER was inducted into the Ohio Women's Hall of Fame. To be considered for such an honor, one must make an outstanding contribution in the areas of art, letters, athletics, business, communication, education, health/human services, law/government, organized labor, religion and philosophy, science, social justice, and volunteerism. This award was presented to Ms. POINTER for her unselfish volunteer activities as it relates to victims' rights, supporting victims' families, developing recreational programs for at-risk youth, and her mentoring with Cleveland public schools.

In April of 1992, Ms. POINTER was honored by Ursuline College, Pepper Pike, Ohio, and Campus Ministries for "outstanding services and efforts in behalf of the community".

Ms. POINTER was also honored by the Mayor, City of Cleveland, for her passionate dedication to disadvantaged youth, especially African American males. This resulted in her receiving the Mayor's Award for Volunteerism.

In October of 1992, she was chosen as the 908th Daily Point of Light for the Nation through the White House. Ms.

POINTER was recognized for the time she volunteers to ensure a decent, crime free, and safe community environment.

Ms. POINTER is an inspiration to the citizens of Cleveland, for her courage and dedication to helping people, and is most deserving of the Director's Community Leadership Award.



OHIO BUREAU OF EMPLOYMENT SERVICES

145 South Front Street
P.O. Box 1618
Columbus, Ohio 43216

George V. Voinovich
Governor

James Conrad
Administrator

October 16, 1991

Ms Yvonne Pointer
1366 East 114th Street
CLEVELAND OH 44106

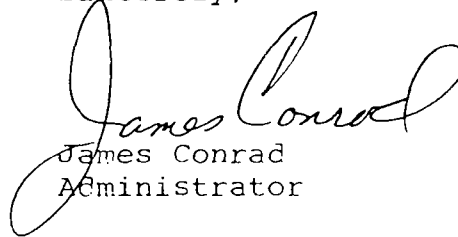
Dear Ms Pointer:

Congratulations on being selected as a 1991 inductee into the Ohio Women's Hall of Fame! We are looking forward to honoring you on November 7th in Columbus.

Both Governor Voinovich and myself will be with you to bestow this highest honor in State government that a person can receive. In the meantime, Carol Porter and her staff will be in communication with you to ensure the details of this forthcoming event will allow you to enjoy the evening.

I am looking forward to seeing you soon.

Sincerely,


James Conrad
Administrator

cjm

HISTORY OF OHIO WOMEN'S HALL OF FAME --

Created in 1978, the Hall of Fame is dedicated to honoring Ohio women for their outstanding accomplishments in the areas of health and human services, organized labor, volunteer work, business industry, arts and letters, education, laws and government, science and technology, religion and philosophy, social justice and athletics. It is the goal of the Ohio Women's Hall of Fame to publicly recognize women's contributions, to preserve a record of their achievements and the achievers, and to remind all Ohioans that through determination, creativity and vision lives have been made richer for the women of Ohio.

Upon your induction into the Ohio Women's Hall of Fame, you will join 172 former honorees who currently live around the country or have deceased. Each of you were either born, or have lived a minimum of five years in the great state of Ohio. A listing of the current members in the Ohio Women's Hall of Fame follows.

City of Cleveland

MICHAEL R. WHITE, MAYOR

Proclamation

OF CONGRATULATIONS TO

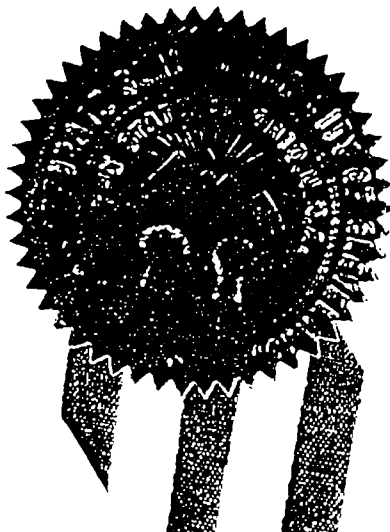
MS. YVONNE POINTER

I am proud to join with the citizens of Cleveland in extending congratulations to Ms. Yvonne Pointer on the well-deserved honor she will receive on November 7, 1991, when she is inducted into the Ohio Women's Hall of Fame in Columbus, Ohio.

The Women's Hall of Fame was established in 1978 by the Women's Division of the Ohio Bureau of Employment Services to honor Ohio women who have contributed to the economic, cultural, social and political progress of the state and helped to improve the status of women. Yvonne is qualified in every respect and more. She is a remarkable woman and extraordinary volunteer who consistently and unselfishly gives of her time and talents to improve the lives of those around her.

Yvonne is relentless in seeking solutions to problems that many find too troubling or hopeless to confront. Her activism includes advocating for victims' rights; and supporting victims' families; initiating and developing a "Midnight Basketball" program here; participating in the Cleveland Public School's mentoring program; and founding the Gloria Pointer Scholarship Program and the "Positive Plus" Program. Space will not allow us to enumerate the countless works of charity she performs for the less fortunate and needy in our community. Suffice it to say that Yvonne is a lady who gives so much in so many ways for the betterment of humankind. For all of her contributions, every citizen of this community owes her a lasting debt of gratitude.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Michael R. White, the 54th Mayor of the City of Cleveland, do hereby offer this Proclamation OF CONGRATULATIONS TO "MS. YVONNE POINTER." I am delighted to extend this tribute of praise and thanks to Yvonne, one of this community's eminently fine citizens. Congratulations, Yvonne!



IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have set my hand and caused the Corporate Seal of the City of Cleveland to be affixed on this 5th day of November in the year 1991.

MAYOR

Call & Post

11-21-91

Five Blacks inducted into the Women's Hall of Fame

Five Blacks were inducted into the Ohio Women's Hall of Fame last Thursday at the Hyatt Regency Columbus, 350 N. High Street.

The Ohio Women's Hall of Fame was created in 1978 by the Women's Division of the Ohio Bureau of Employment Services to recognize women who have made significant contributions to the social, economic, political and cultural growth of Ohio and the nation.

Those inducted were: Earladeen Badger, PH.D.; Jo Ann Davidson, Sara J. Harper, Donna L. Hawk, June A. Holley, Martha C. Moore, Darlene M. Owens, Helen H. Peterson, Martha J. Pituch, Yvonne Pointer, Virginia J. Ruehlmann, Josephine Lindeman Schwarz, Suzanne Timken, Nancy Vetrone, Hallie Q. Brown and Stella Marie Scarano Zannoni.

HALLIE Q. BROWN

Wilberforce's Hallie Quinn Brown (1850-1949), educator and author, used her oratorical skills to advance the social reform movements of her day. A lifelong advocate for equal rights, Ms. Brown spoke throughout the United States and abroad on behalf of women's suffrage and temperance. The Hallie Q. Brown Memorial Library at Central State

University is dedicated to this eloquent champion of social justice.

RITA DOVE

When Akron native, Rita Dove won the 1987 Pulitzer Prize in Poetry for "Thomas and Beulah," she was the second African American poet to receive this high recognition. Upon her graduation from Miami University in 1973, Ms. Dove received a Fulbright Scholarship to study in West Germany. In 1977, she earned a master of fine arts degree in creative writing from the University of Iowa.

SARA J. HARPER

Sara J. Harper, judge, attorney, human rights activist and mother, has been a pacesetter and role model for more than 30 years. Her list of "firsts" is impressive and includes being the first African American woman to graduate from Case Western Reserve University Law School, being the first woman to serve on the judiciary of the U.S. Marine Corps Reserve, and co-founding the first victim's rights program in the country. In 1990, she and another African American woman became the first to win seats on the Ohio Court of Appeals.

DARLENE M. OWENS

Whether it's at the grocery store or on the picket line, Cleveland tradeswoman, Darlene Owens can be found advocating for equal opportunity for women and minorities. If she hears women talking with a lack of confidence, Ms. Owens is quick to share her belief that women can do anything they set their minds to. A single mother with three children, Ms. Owens herself overcame the barriers of sexism and racism to become the first journey-level woman pipefitter in Ohio.

YVONNE POINTER

Cleveland's Yvonne Pointer is an inspiration to all who know her. Since the tragic rape and murder of her daughter Gloria in 1984, Mrs. Pointer has dedicated herself to assisting other families who have been victimized. She has become a relentless seeker of solutions to problems that many find too troubling or too hopeless to confront. Her volunteer activities include advocating for victims' rights and supporting victims' families, developing recreational programs for at-risk youth, and mentoring with the Cleveland Public Schools.



Yvonne Pointer

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In 1985, Mrs. Pointer founded Parents Against Child Killing, a support group for parents of murdered children which provides information regarding available resources to victims and their families. She is also a member and advocate of Parents of Murdered Children. At a moment's notice, at any hour of the day, she goes to the aid of grieving families by offering them a compassionate ear and words of encouragement.

Instead of buckling under the weight of personal tragedy and the difficulties of being a single parent, Mrs. Pointer spreads her message of optimism to help others. Each year she selects a college-bound student from the Cleveland Public Schools to receive the Gloria Pointer Memorial Scholarship, which provides \$500 to a student facing financial hardship. In addition, she volunteers as a mentor

for troubled students, and has founded Positive Plus, a support group for single working parents.

Mrs. Pointer is also a member and advocate for VOICES, Voices Over Innercity Crime Exchanging Solutions. When Mrs. Pointer recently learned about the Midnight Basketball program in Chicago, she began a successful one-woman crusade to bring the program to Cleveland. Established in Cleveland on May 14, 1991, the Midnight Basketball program provides a recreational and educational outlet for 18- to 25-year-old men known to be at risk for potential involvement in criminal behavior. The program operates during the hours of 10:00 p.m. and 2:00 a.m. — the time when crimes are most likely to be committed.



Virginia J. Ruehlmann

Virginia Ruehlmann has been described as "one of the brightest jewels" in the Queen City's crown. A former first lady of Cincinnati, Mrs. Ruehlmann has devoted much of her personal and professional life to helping those less fortunate.

Since 1983, Mrs. Ruehlmann has been the administrator of the Helen Steiner Rice Foundation, which makes grants available to non-profit programs serving the elderly, the young and the poor in Ohio. Mrs. Ruehlmann has been the editor, author and compiler of 13 books that utilize the poetic skills of Helen Steiner Rice. Titles of these inspirational works include *Stepping Stones; Pathways; Bouquets; Reflections; To Mother with Love; God Bless America; Christmas Blessings; Time to Love; Remembering with Love; Celebrations of the Heart; Joy for the Heart; Blossoms of Friendship; and Daily Devotional*. At the poet's request, all royalties earned from the sale of these books support the work of the foundation.

In addition to her professional responsibilities, Mrs. Ruehlmann has been a volunteer leader of many charitable organizations in the Cincinnati area. These activities include chair of the Hamilton County Special Olympics, president of the Freedoms Foundation, and president of the Catholic Social Services of Southwestern Ohio. Mrs. Ruehlmann has been the recipient of numerous prestigious awards, including the *Cincinnati Enquirer's* Woman of the Year Award for 1977, and the

Lady of the Equestrian Order of the Holy Sepulchre recognition from Pope John Paul II in 1989.

Mrs. Ruehlmann earned a bachelor of science degree in education in 1946 and a master's degree in education administration in 1948, both from the University of Cincinnati. While serving on the faculty of Wellesley College, Mrs. Ruehlmann participated in the early efforts to research the effects of stress and stress management techniques. She and her husband, former Cincinnati Mayor Eugene Ruehlmann, are the parents of eight children and 18 grandchildren.

Certificate of Recognition

Presented to

Yvonne Pointer

In Honor

and Recognition of

**Receiving the Mayor's Award for
Volunteerism from the
City of Cleveland.**

Date April 23, 1991



LEE FISHER
Attorney General

Pointers receives 1990 Outstanding Young Clevelander Award for Volunteers

By LINDA D. HALL

Call and Post Staff Reporter

Since the brutal murder of her 14-year old daughter on December 6, 1984, Yvonne Pointer says "we must succumb to the negative forces in our society and continue to seek solutions by being examples."

Committed to touching the lives of others who have also suffered the loss of a loved one, Pointer says she doesn't try to seek sympathy, but would like to make people more

conscious that this is something that could happen.

Through her many concerns, Pointer was the recipient of the 1990 Outstanding Young Clevelander Awards for Volunteers, presented to her by the Cleveland Jaycees. Pointer was nominated for the award by Roland Streb of Blue Cross Blue Shield.

Pointer says, there are often times when people tell her that her efforts are for her daughter. "It's not

necessarily for Gloria, says Pointer, "because Gloria is gone. But then I have to realize that there are other children out there, and I very simply do not want anybody to experience that kind of pain."

Devoting most of her efforts towards making a safer society, Pointer spends much of her time teaching children what to do to prevent becoming victims of crimes, through a program called "Stranger Danger." As a result of

these efforts, the day after the assemblies, a young male, frightened by a man who tried to lure her into his vehicle, managed to escape harm.

In addition, Pointer established a "Gloria Pointer Scholarship Fund." The funds, in the board of education fund came from a 10,000 reward for information which would have led to the arrest and conviction of the person responsible for Gloria's arrest.



D.L. Blair, Inc. / 1548 Front Street / Blair, Nebraska 68008 / (402)426-4701 / FAX (402)426-4706

April 16, 1993

Yvonne Pointer
1366 E 114th
Cleveland, OH 44106

Dear Entrant:

We are pleased to announce that you are a potential Grand Prize Winner in the "Revlon & Essence Celebrate Women Who Go Above & Beyond" Contest. The prize you are being considered for is a 4-day, 3-night trip for two to New York City to attend the Essence Awards Ceremony, including round trip air transportation between gateway airport nearest your home, hotel accommodations, tickets for two to the Essence Awards Ceremony and the Founder's Day Dinner and \$1,000.00 cash. Please be advised, upon confirmation of your eligibility, you and your companion must depart for New York City on April 29, 1993.

In order to assure our client the entry/essays of potential winners are authentic and entrants have complied with the rules of the contest, we are enclosing an Affidavit to that effect. The Official Rules for this contest indicate potential winners will be required to sign and return an Affidavit of Eligibility within ten (10) days of notification. The enclosed Prize Acceptance Form constitutes an Affidavit of Eligibility. In the event of non-compliance within this time period, an alternate will be selected.

We are also enclosing a Publicity Release for you to fill out, in accordance with the Official Rules, which state, "By acceptance of prize, each winner consents to use of name and/or likeness and entry material submitted in any manner by sponsors for advertising and trade without further compensation, unless prohibited by law." In the event you are designated as a prize winner, your completion of this document would be required.

Please, carefully complete the enclosed forms, sign and have them notarized/witnessed, and return them within 10 days of the above date. We have provided a pre-paid, Federal Express airbill to use in returning your forms.

On behalf of our clients, we thank you for your interest and participation in their contest.

Cordially,

D. L. BLAIR, INC.

Linda Sutherland
Client Services

LS:ch

enclosures

REVLON

625 Madison Avenue
New York, N.Y. 10022
(212) 527-4000

April 23, 1993

Yvonne Pointer
1366 East 114YH
Cleveland, Ohio 44106

Dear Yvonne:

Congratulations, once again, on being selected as one of the Revlon/Essence Magazine "Women Who Go Above and Beyond". It was a pleasure speaking to you and, as mentioned, we are all looking forward to meeting you on Thursday, April 29.

For your convenience, I have enclosed the airline tickets for you and your companion as well as an agenda. You will be met at the airport (either at the gate or on the way to the baggage claim) by a Revlon representative carrying a sign with your name. Transportation will be provided to the hotel as well as for all scheduled events.

Also, as an added convenience, we have arranged for a personal makeup and hair styling session for you prior to the Essence Awards, so be sure to set aside time for this Friday afternoon. We will confirm your appointment with you next week.

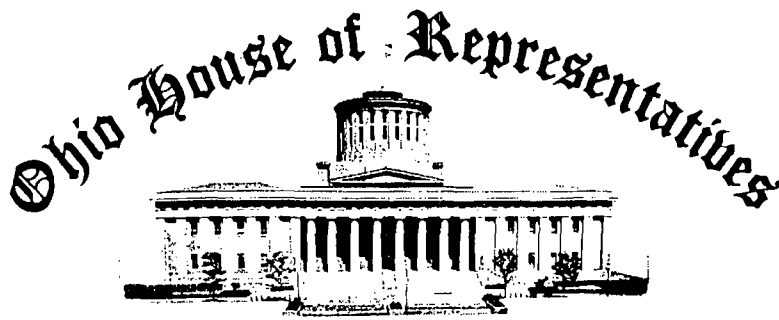
If you have any questions, please call me at (212) 527-4727.

We hope you have a safe trip and are looking forward to your arrival.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Carol Walters". The signature is fluid and elegant, with the first letters of the first and last names being capitalized and prominent.

Carol Walters



RAY MILLER

State Representative
29th House District
Columbus, Ohio 43215
(614) 466-8010 - Office
(614) 644-9494 - FAX

Columbus
43215

COMMITTEES:

Finance and Appropriations
Chairman, Human Resources
Education
Health and Retirement
Chairman, Commission on
Minority Health
Legislative Service Commission
National Conference of
State Legislatures Education
and Job Training Committee
Commission on Education
Improvement

December 20, 1991

Ms. Yvonne Pointer
1366 E. 114th Street
Cleveland, OH 44106

Dear Yvonne:

Congratulations on your induction into the Ohio Women's Hall of Fame. Enclosed is a commendation passed by the House of Representatives in recognition of your achievement.

If I may be of any assistance to you, please do not hesitate to contact me. Once again, I congratulate you and wish you much success in all your future endeavors.

Sincerely,

Ray Miller
State Representative

RM:kh

Enclosure



Wage Michael R. 3/1/81
4
Gordon P. 1/1/81

everywoman

Cleveland is hailed for 'going beyond'

FROM STAFF AND WIRE REPORTS

Yvonne Pointer of Cleveland was selected recently as one of five winners in a nationwide search for "Women Who Go Above and Beyond."

After her daughter was slain, Pointer established the support group Parents Against Child Killing, and Positive Plus, a self-help group for women. She also founded the Midnight Basketball League for "at-risk" young men, and a scholarship in her daughter's name.



Pointer

She won \$1,000 and a trip to New York City to attend the sixth annual Essence Awards gala, which honored Lena Horne and Rosa Parks, among others. The contest was created by Revlon cosmetics and Essence magazine.

Pointer, who wrote a 100-word essay to win the honor, said the winners were given plush lodgings in New York, treated to massages and makeovers, and they hobnobbed with celebrities all weekend. "I felt like Cinderella," she said. "My pumpkin transformed into a limousine."

Yvonne Pointer saluted by Revlon, Essence for going above and beyond

Yvonne Pointer of Cleveland, Ohio is one of five winners in a nationwide search for a "Women Who Go Above and Beyond."

The contest, created by Revlon and Essence, honors outstanding women who serve as role models, volunteer their time or actively participate in community service programs to make a difference.

Yvonne's daughter was abducted, raped and murdered nearly a decade ago. Out of this personal tragedy, she founded "Parents Against Child Killing" (P.A.C.K.); "Positive Plus," a self-help support group for women; the statewide Midnight Basketball League for "at-risk" men (aged 18-25); and a scholar-

ship in her daughter's name, which is funded by proceeds from Yvonne's poetry. In addition to winning the "Women Who Go Above and Beyond" Award, Yvonne has also been inducted into the Ohio Women's Hall of Fame and was one of President Bush's "Points of Light."

As one of five winners nationwide, Yvonne won 1,000 and a trip to New York City, where she attended the 6th Essence Awards gala which honored Gail Devers, Aretha Franklin, "Sweet Alice" Harris, Lena Horne, Senator Carol Mosely-Braun, Rosa Parks, Tina Turner, and Dr. Carla Wilson-Hawkins.

Revlon, creators of the new ColorStyle line of cosmetics specially formulated for Women of Color, has sponsored the Essence Awards for the past two years. This year's "Women Who Go Above and Beyond" contest is the latest of Revlon's many programs that demonstrate their continuing commitment to women.

With 5.1 million readers each month, Essence is the country's preeminent magazine for African American women. Published by Essence Communications, Inc., Essence is the leading source for beauty, fashion, celebrity, career and health information, along with

cutting-edge reports on issues affecting today's Black women.



YVONNE POINTER

REVLON AND ESSENCE SALUTE WOMEN WHO GO ABOVE AND BEYOND

YVONNE POINTER of Cleveland, Ohio is one of five winners in a nationwide search for "Women Who Go Above and Beyond."

The contest, created by Revlon and Essence, honors outstanding women who serve as role models, volunteer their time or actively participate in community service programs to make a difference.

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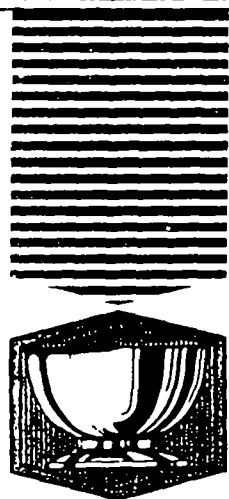
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Outstanding Young Women of America.

This is to certify that

YVONNE POINTER

has been selected as an Outstanding Young Woman of America for 1988 in recognition of outstanding ability, accomplishments, and service to the community.

R. Diane Lee

R. Diane Lee
Program Coordinator



1993 Annual Awards

YVONNE POINTER
Office of the Attorney General, Lee Fisher

Many agencies and institutions throughout our community assist CMHA in the delivery of an array of comprehensive services designed to meet the holistic needs of residents of CMHA. This agency has significantly improved the quality of life of our residents either through direct service activities, coordination efforts, or through exemplary leadership skills. We applaud your commitment and fortitude as we collectively work to offer hope and opportunity to our residents in a safe, secure, and wholesome environment.

**NOMINEE FOR
OUTSTANDING PARTNER AWARD
YOUTH AT RISK SERVICES**

Claire E. Freeman, Chief Executive Officer

Ronnie Davis, Chief Operating Officer



Ohio
Republican
Party

Robert T. Bennett
Chairman

Martha C. Moore
Vice-Chairman

November 12, 1991

Yvonne Pointer
1366 East 114th St.
Cleveland, OH 44106

Dear Yvonne:

I wanted to congratulate you on becoming one of the 1991 Ohio Women's Hall of Fame Inductees! The distinction that accompanies your award is invaluable, and may I add, well deserved.

It was not until after the induction ceremonies on Thursday, November 7 that I visualized the diverse caliber of women that comprise and lead the great State of Ohio. I am very proud of all of you.

The inspiration and leadership that you exemplify will guide many young women now and always - congratulations once again.

With kind regards and best wishes,

Very truly yours,

Robert T. Bennett
Chairman

RTB/pjs

NEWS RELEASE

People today are avoiding the news! Remarks such as, there is never anything good happening, always seem to be the general consensus of the people. These remarks are sad but true because often our main stories focus on violence, tragedies, crime, drugs and etc. However, every now and then a story emerges that leaves us with a good feeling.

There are still some who are having a positive contribution on society, a person such as Yvonne Pointer.

On September 22, 1990, she was presented the 1990 Outstanding Young Clevelander Award for Volunteers, by the Cleveland Jaycees. Yvonne was nominated for this award by Rolanda Streb of Blue Cross Blue Shield.

Many of you may remember her daughter, Gloria Pointer who was brutally slain on December 6, 1984. Gloria's murder remains unsolved.

Yvonne has energized as a pillar of strength. She can often be found working on impossible task in the name of bettering society. Her award was well deserved and her message is loud and strong. We must not succumb to the negative forces in our society. We must continue to seek solutions by being examples. Yvonne sums it up by stating by the grace of god, she intends on being part of the solution.

to what was described as a "conspiracy" of harassment of Black elected and appointed officials were laid by a coalition of religious, civil rights and legal organizations, including the National Council Churches (NCC).

The call for a "legal struggle, political struggle and a struggle in the streets" followed a public hearing and an open forum, both held as part of the 20th annual Congressional Black Caucus Legislative Weekend. This third in a series of hearings, on "Harassment of Black Elected and Appointed Officials," was cosponsored by the NCC, the National Interreligious Commission on Civil Rights and Clarence M. Mitchell Jr. Memorial Fund. Previous hearings were held in New York and Detroit.

Our presence here is based on God's requirements to do justice," said Dr. Kenyon C. Duke, the NCC's unit director and associate general secretary. "Prophetic justice, based in New York."

During the hearing, several Black officials described their experiences of being harassed. "We have documented that 43 Black elected officials are being harassed in the country," said former Maryland Senator Clarence Mitchell at the hearing. Asserted Washington, D.C., attorney J. Cox, "It is a conscious effort of top officials of the Justice Department and the Justice Department."

Justifying in the morning's hearing, Congressman Lynn Dymally (D-Calif.), hearing's convenor, said, "The harassment of Black officials and members among those who now follow a pattern in harassment." "Like others, called both the Department of Justice and the media to account, saying that the media are only 'law enforcement officials' too eager to build a case for a conviction if a trial has occurred."

Dr. Benjamin M. Mays, executive director of the National Church of God, said, "The absolute affirmation when our officials govern for the purpose of the people."

lice."

Commented author and researcher Dr. Mary Sawyer, "All officials should be held accountable, but Black officials should not be subject to a double standard. Harassment is based on this nation's history of racial discrimination," she asserted. "Harassment of Black officials is based on economic factors, power, and, most important, spiritual values."

Minister Louis Farrakhan of the Nation of Islam — who made an unscheduled appearance at the hearing — declared, "We are under attack, and we must respond to the attack promptly." Black leaders are "hounded," he said, and as a result many of them decide not to take the pressure and black out of the leadership arena.

Those present agreed on three-pronged offensive against harassment, including the holding of national and regional congressional hearings, at which evidence of harassment would be gathered; public educational efforts, including with local civic, religious, fraternal, political, labor and educational groups, and the filing of a national lawsuit against the U.S. government, charging a conspiracy against Black officials.

Reenlisted

Navy Petty Officer 2nd Class Ronald S. Penny, a 1981 graduate of South High School of Youngstown, OH, has reenlisted for six years while serving at Naval Air Station Atlanta, Marietta, Ga. He joined the Navy in May 1982.

Training

Navy Seaman Recruit Ralph Love, son of Thomas and Earline Brooks of 1410 E. 94th St., Cleveland, Ohio, has completed Training Orlando Fla.

1990 Outstanding Young Clevelander



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Many of you may remember her daughter, Gloria Pointer who was brutally slain on December 6, 1984. Gloria's murder remains unsolved. Yvonne has energized as a pillar of strength. She can often be found working on impossible task in the name of bettering society. Her award was well deserved and her message is loud and strong. We must not succumb to the negative forces in our society. We must continue to seek solutions by being examples.

Yvonne sums it up by stating, "...by the grace of God, she intends on being part of the solution."

*Reporter News Paper
Oct 13 - 20*

PROGRAM AGENDA

Cocktails 7:00 - 7:45pm

Welcome Tracy Camera

Master of Ceremony Terry Burhans
WKYC TV3

Opening Comments Larry Robinson

Judges and Judging Rosanne Switalski

Dinner 8:15 - 9:00pm

Multi-media Presentation: IF You
could see your city now...
Mark Mindlin

Awards Presentation

Closing Comments Edward Aube



CLEVELAND JAYCEES HONOR

Outstanding Young Clevelander

AWARDS

ARTS:

CIVIL SERVICE/GOVERNMENT:

David M. Lynch

EDUCATION:

ENTREPRENURIAL/BUSINESS:

MEDIA/JOURNALISM:

MEDICINE:

SCIENCE/TECHNOLOGY:

SPIRITUAL LEADERSHIP:

VOLUNTEERISM:

Yvonne Pointer

DISTINGUISHED SERVICE AWARD:

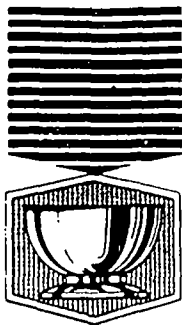
Mary Verdi-Fletcher



*The Cleveland Jaycees
request the pleasure
of your company at the
1990 Outstanding Young Clevelanders
Award Banquet
honoring
The Most Outstanding Young Persons
of Cleveland
on Saturday, the 22nd of September
Nineteen Hundred and Ninety
at seven o'clock in the evening
English Oak Room
Tower City
Cleveland, Ohio*

*\$40 per person
RSVP by September 15, 1990*

*Black Tie
Optional*



Outstanding Young Women of America®

POST OFFICE BOX 300, MONTGOMERY, ALABAMA 36101-0300
PHONE (205) 262-4199

OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR

Ms. Yvonne Pointer
1366 E. 114th
Cleveland, OH 44106

BOARD OF ADVISORS

Dear Ms. Pointer:

The Board of Advisors is pleased to inform you that you have been nominated by Wayne Doyle Dawson, Cleveland Hgts., OH 44121, as an Outstanding Young Woman of America for 1988.

Just to be nominated is an honor in itself. But also, each nominee will be a candidate for the 1988 Outstanding Young Woman award for her own state. From these State Winners, a panel of distinguished judges will select the Ten Outstanding Young Women of America for 1988.

However, for its proud 23 year history, the primary purpose of our awards program has been to recognize the many young women whose time, talents, and dedication have enriched the quality of American life. The annual awards volume, OUTSTANDING YOUNG WOMEN OF AMERICA, will include a biographical summary of every young woman selected by our Board for this distinction.

In order to meet program and judging schedules, we urge you to complete, sign, and return your biographical form by the date indicated on it. Selection as an Outstanding Young Woman has never been contingent on the purchase of the awards volume, but copies will be available to those whose biographies appear in it. If you wish to reserve a copy, simply complete the order request information on the back of your biographical form.

I extend our congratulations upon this nomination which is an honor to you, to your community, and to the organizations which you serve.

Sincerely,

R. Diane Lee,
Program Coordinator

OUTSTANDING
YOUNG WOMEN
OF AMERICA®

1988

The National Awards Program

Outstanding Young Women of America honors the remarkable accomplishments of our nation's women. Their achievements—past and present—in their homes, communities and professions are positive contributions toward a better America.

America's young women are a living "progress report" on the everyday life of our nation. For it is our people who lead our country forward . . . those at every level, in every profession, community and social strata. They provide the enthusiasm, activity and concern that make the world we live in a more exciting, adventurous place.

Involvement in profession and community is just one part of an outstanding young woman. The best of our nation's character is also expressed in each young woman's exciting achievements. Each outstanding young woman, in her own way, is concerned with making the world a better place in which to live.

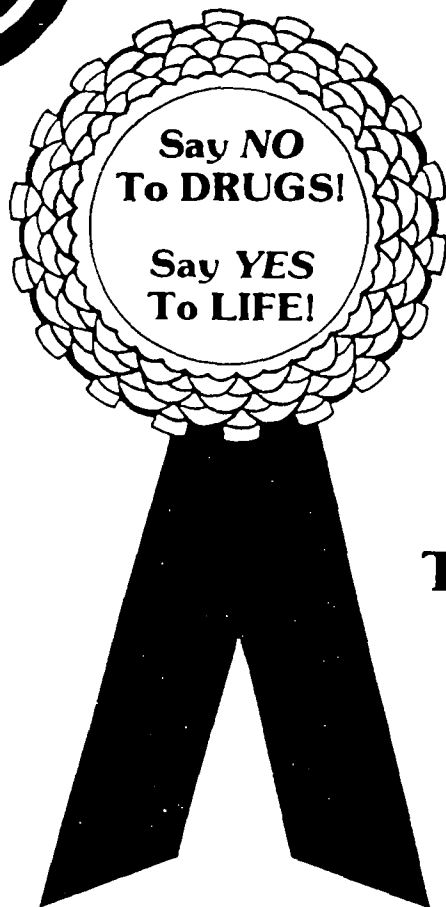
Each year, 51 women are selected to represent their states' Outstanding Young Women. From these 51 remarkable young women, the ten National Award Winners are chosen by eminent judges. The program is

guided by a distinguished Board of Advisors made up of women leaders from all walks of life. Together, the State and National Winners truly encompass the wide range of interests, achievements, honors and glory of the Outstanding Young Women of America.

The Outstanding Young Women of America Program would be unable to choose just one woman to exemplify all the characteristic of the award winners. By designating ten young women of America, a cross-section of talent is achieved. These ten National Award Winners typify today's modern, active, involved women. They represent nationwide recognition of *all* of the honorees, from every state and every community.

The Board of Advisors salutes the past, present and future accomplishments of these, the *OUTSTANDING YOUNG WOMEN OF AMERICA* for 1988.

POINTER, YVONNE
Cleveland, Ohio; Administrative Specialist, b: Dec 28, 1952; c: Gloria, Raymon, Denielle; p: Henderson and Lucella Pointer; ed: Cuyahoga Comm College 1988; Sawyer Business College, Travel Agt Cert 1984-85; career: Cardinal Fed Savings Bank, Admin Spec 1986; Webb's Transport, Travel Spec 1980-84; Webb's Day Care, Tchr 1975-80; civic: Adam Walsh Child Cr, Sec 1985-87; Parents Against Child Killings, Co-Found, Org 1985; Positive Plus Self-Help Org, Found, Org 1988; Stranger-Danger Prog, Vol, Spokesperson 1986-87; Sex-Crime Unit, Vol, Spokesperson 1985; Child Safe Prog, Vol, Spokesperson 1985; Neighborhood Elderly Serv 1982; Hosp-Prison Visitation 1975; Mayoral Re-Election Campaign, Sec, Distrib 1984; Providence House, Ctr for Abused Children, Vol 1988; Prayer Temple Ch 1976; Comm Dev Vol 1977; Councilman Re-Election Campaign, Sec 1989; Neighborhood Youth Serv, Act Coord 1984; honors: Natl Assn Remodeling Indus, Neighbor of the Month Award 1987; Adam Walsh Found, Recog of Outstanding Ach 1987; Bd of Ed, Award Cert 1986; Comm Rel, CBE, Cert of Appreciation 1985-86; Cleveland Pub Library, Martin Luther King Contest, Outstanding Ach 1986.



**CERTIFICATE
OF
COMPLETION
W.R.A.P.**

**WINNING RECREATION
ALTERNATIVE PROGRAM
TO ALCOHOL AND OTHER DRUG USE**

PRESENTED TO

Yvonne Pointer

11/17/90
DATE

Rosemary Paul
PREVENTION RESOURCE SPECIALIST

Sponsored By:

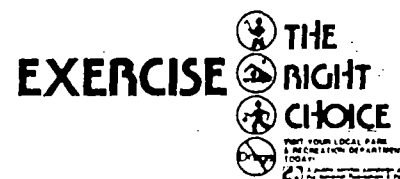
NATIONAL RECREATION AND PARK ASSOCIATION

Developed By:

FLORIDA RECREATION AND PARK ASSOCIATION

Funded By:

**U.S. DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
DRUG-FREE SCHOOLS AND COMMUNITIES PROGRAM**





STATE SENATOR LEE I. FISHER

to:

YVONNE POINTER

IN RECOGNITION OF OUTSTANDING ACHIEVEMENT

ON BEHALF OF THE ADAM WALSH CHILD RESOURCE CENTER

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Lee I. Fisher", written over a horizontal line.

State Senator Lee I. Fisher
25th Senate District

Beloit Police Department

100 State Street, Beloit, WI 53511



GATEWAY TO WISCONSIN

October 10, 1992

Ms. Yvonne Pointer
Regional Liaison to the Office of the Attorney General
State Office Building
615 West Superior Avenue
Cleveland, OH 44113-1899

Dear Ms. Pointer:

With extreme great pleasure it is a privilege to acknowledge you as a recent recipient as the Presidents Daily Point of Light Award for 1992. This award speaks so highly of yourself and of your many talents.

This great honor you have received I feel there is no one more deserving than yourself. The tragedy that entered your life touched the lives of many. You have been able to continue on with extreme faith and courage during these difficult times to press upon the positives and values of human life. Your willingness to strive to improve the quality of life of others in your community is incredible.

Ms. Pointer, you have been a true inspiration for Gil Walker and I. We often discuss you and the positive things you are doing for all people, it helps give us the incentive to continue to follow your positive lead.

I am so very proud of your accomplishments, our friendship and what you mean to the Midnight Basketball Program. You are truly an asset to the Attorney General's office and a role model for all women, men and children in our country.

Shall I ever be of any assistance to you please do not hesitate to contact me. May God bless you.

With Warm Regards,

Captain Charles A. Tubbs
Beloit Police Department

CAT/dlr



City of Cleveland

MICHAEL R. WHITE, MAYOR



May 24, 1991

Ms. Yvonne Pointer
1366 East 114 Street
Cleveland, Ohio 44106

Dear Yvonne:

Through the last several months, I have learned much about myself, our City, and the meaning of true friendship. I have learned that our City is composed of great people who truly value friendships, even in the face of adversity, and that no matter what the obstacle, I must continue to provide as much positive leadership as I can as Mayor.

Please accept my most personal thanks for your support and concern. It's in difficult times that the meaning of true friendship becomes very special.

In the days ahead, I look forward to joining you and other Clevelanders in our shared goal of making our City the very best that it can be. GOD BLESS YOU.

Sincerely yours,

Michael R. White
Mayor

MRW:jj

An Equal Opportunity Employer

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