Paul Lima of Northwest Mutual Financial Network, the sponsors of the Gala Event spoke about the importance of social responsibility of his country. “When I heard about Pratham and understood their cause, I felt humbled,” said the VP, Emerging Markets.

“The high level of integrity and the fact that Pratham is considered the top organization in what it does, makes us at Northwest Mutual very honored to sponsor this event and we sincerely hope to be involved in this for many more years in the future.”

A vote of thanks was passed by Pratham President Yogi Patel. “Pratham has a very special meaning to me because I can relate to those kids,” Patel recollected his own childhood, growing up in a small town in India where his parents were illiterate.

There was no formal Pratham in that town but there definitely were people with the Pratham spirit. These were the people who paid for Patel’s tuition and books and tickets to USA when he got admitted to Rice at the tender age of 17. And today, due to these generous and compassionate people, he has been able to carry on the spirit through his two daughters, Shani, and Jelani Summers and Rashida, and Jelani Summers and Roslyn M. Austin both of Evanston, IL.

As far as his success story is concerned, if education has worked for my family and my kids, it sure should change the lives of every individual out there waiting for an opportunity. “

After dinner, his program was performed by Uma Mantravadi and her music group.

The gala raised $390,000 with 560 ardent supporters attending the event promising their integrity to a cause so great that it can change the life of mankind and the destiny of a country. The current target of Pratham is now $500,000.

TRIBUTE TO ARLETTE T. GATEWOOD

HON. JAMES A. TRAFICANT, JR.
OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 14, 2001

Mr. TRAFICANT. Mr. Speaker, I submit the following for the RECORD.

THE BIOGRAPHY OF ARLETTE T. GATEWOOD

Born to Mayhene and Ella (Jackson) Gatewood, in the late 1920’s, the fourteenth child of fifteen children, Arlette T. Gatewood began on his journey of life. Raised on the Eastside of Dayton’s White’s Hill, and a graduate of East High School class of 1947. During his adolescent years he met a sweet, supportive girl named Emma G. Bunch, whom he married, and 51 years and two daughters later, they are still a couple that has love, respect and commitment to each other.

Arlette’s daughters, Aleatha L. Summers and Roslyn M. Austin both of Evanston, IL were raised by the stern hand of a father that instilled a foundation of love, common sense, and character along with a wealth of knowledge and commitment. These keys of success have been handed down to his grandchildren: Rashida, and Jaleni Summers and Marcus Austin, and this torch will be handed down to future generations.

Arlette over the years has taken the time to share his time and knowledge with his nieces and nephews and many other young adults. There are so many lives that Arlette has influenced, the advice shared and the support given has created powerful, productive adults and a strong community.

For 32 years Arlette worked as a crane operator in the Conditioning Yard at the Brittel Steel Plant of the Youngstown Sheet and Tube Company. A member of Local Union 1462, United Steelworkers of America AFL-CIO-CIO, where he served in various capacities as a Local Union Vice President, Treasurer, and Grievance Committee member. Also served as a member of the Civil Rights Committee, and the Worker’s Compensation Committee. A dedicated trade unionist, he was appointed to the position of Staff Representative January 16, 1978 by Frank Lesenganich, Former Director of District 22. Thus, retired from work, Arlette continues to fight for the rights of labor and labor relations.

Arlette is a member of Reeds Chapel A.M.E. Church where he serves on the Trustee Board, a member of the Board of Directors of Inwood Home Maintenance Service, Leadership Youngstown Urban League, the Civil Right Committee, and the Business Labor Advisory Committee for Congressman Traficant.

He is also a board member of Youngstown Community Action Council, a past board member of the Youngstown Employment and Training Corporation (YETC) where he served as president for 4 years, a member of Citizens Participation Organization (Model Cities), Mahoning Valley Council of Church Economic Task Force, and Labor-Management Citizens Committee of Youngstown.

Arlette serves as a member of the Youngstown Area Urban League, Youngstown Chapter of N.A.A.C.P., Associated Neighborhood Centers, Leadership Youngstown Class of 1987, A. Phillip Randolph Institute; and Board of Trustee of the United Way.

Arlette Gatewood is and has been an asset to the entire community and has shared his experiences so that the future generations can benefit from his knowledge. He is a silent storm throughout the valley.

To My Husband, Our Father and Our Grandfather:

HERE’S TO THE MAN

Here’s to the man who knows who he is and where he stands, the man with enough confidence in his own beliefs that he isn’t afraid to let others express theirs . . .

Here’s to the man who doesn’t claim to know the answers until he has tried to understand the questions, the man with the strength to hold an unpopular opinion and the courage to change his mind . . .

Here’s to the man whose warmth and wisdom and humor have earned him the respect of his friends and family and who makes this world a better place in which to live . . .

Arlette, Daddy . . .

HERE’S TO YOU!!!

With Love,

Emma, Pam, Raymond, Roslyn “Bunny”, Ray Austin, Shani, Jaleni, Marques, and Pap

THE RETIREMENT OF DR. SARAH HARRIS

HON. TONY P. HALL
OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 14, 2001

Mr. HALL of Ohio. Mr. Speaker, I rise today with a heavy heart. My community of Dayton, Ohio is losing one of its most respected citizens. Fortunately, she is just retiring and moving to Nevada, but it is a loss of Montgomery County nonetheless.

Dr. Sarah E. Harris has been a stalwart of Montgomery County and the Miami Valley of Ohio all of her life. She exemplifies what it means to be a public servant. Her life has been dedicated to serving others and improving the lives of all of her neighbors. She has been an example of a Good Samaritan, always willing to lend a hand and meet a need. Like a good neighbor, Dr. Harris was there.

She is also a good friend and I will miss her a great deal. I have had the pleasure of working with her for many years, in a variety of capacities. She has worn a number of hats in her lifetime and is still retiring early. We thought we had a few more good years left and I am happy that she will return to Dayton to continue her relationships and work on bringing our community closer together.

Dr. Harris is a product of the fine education from Dayton’s public schools and Miami University of Ohio. She immediately started her career of public service by becoming first a teacher and then a principal in Dayton. She continued by also working with Central State University and the Dayton Urban League. In 1987, she began her service as Montgomery County Treasurer and continued as one of our three county commissioners from 1990 through 1992.

As she has stated, “Nobody likes to lose an election, but I think it catapulted me into different things.” Yet another testament to her commitment to our community is that she did not leave public service, after leaving elected office. She continued her work as the director of our chapter of the National Conference on Christians and Jews, now the National Conference on Community and Justice.

Her recent service as co-chair of the Dayton Dialogue on Race Relations (DDRR) continued her dedication to improving the lives of people from all backgrounds. She has brought all of her talents, energy and passion to bear on this current initiative. I am pleased that U.S. District Judge Walter Rice, County Commissioner Vicki Pegg and City Commissioner Dean Lovelace will continue their work and be joined by former Common Pleas Judge Adele Riley.

I am particularly touched by Dr. Harris' tireless work with this latest endeavor. She has volunteered full-time to ensure the success of the DDRR and its signature dialogue groups. These groups meet in people's homes, with people of all ethnic backgrounds. They have conversations about their personal experiences with issues of race in an informal setting. Instead of just speaking of black and white, people are building relationships that will allow them to think of friends who happen to be of a different race.

The last time I was together with Dr. Harris was on the steps of the United States Capitol. We were there for a conference on “Connecting Communities for Reconciliation and Justice,” sponsored by Initiatives for Change and Hal in the Cities. I was proud to have her introduce me to her fellow participants and glad to have her representing Dayton at this international gathering.