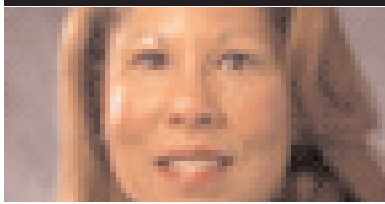


Minority Reporter

"From informationto.... understanding."



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Celebrate African American Inventors
- p. 8

**Happy
New Year!**

Vol. 1, No. 12
January 5-11, 2008

Rochester, NY
www.MinorityReporter.net

Community Speak Out AGAINST 'Zero Tolerance'

Read full story on page 3



**January 11,
last day to
register to
vote in
Presidential
Primary**

See page 2 for more information

**BET News Sits Down
With 2008
Presidential Hopefuls**

**ELECTION 2008
HEADQUARTERS**



New York, NY (BlackNews.com)

Civil Rights Advocate Exonerated in case dubbed 'worst race riot in American History'... Read full story on page 3



As part of BET Networks' 2008 national election coverage, BET News sits down with the 2008 presidential hopefuls for a series of compelling interviews titled WHAT'S IN IT FOR US? For the premiere special, BET speaks with the man on a mission to become the first Black man in the White House, Senator Barack Obama, in the half-hour special WHAT'S IN IT FOR US? BARACK OBAMA AND THE BLACK VOTE, premiering Tuesday, January 8 at 10:00 p.m. ET/PT. The second special WHAT'S IN IT FOR US? HILLARY CLINTON AND THE BLACK VOTE will air on Tuesday, January 15 at 10:00 p.m. ET/PT.

In the premiere special, BET News correspondent Jeff Johnson sits with Senator Obama in a revealing interview that provides a rare glimpse into the Illinois Senator's life, his family and his political aspirations as he embarks on an impressive quest

Cont'd on page 2

2008 presidential hopefuls.. *Cont'd from page 1*

to change the complexion of politics forever. Through this enlightening BET News special, viewers will hear Senator Obama's thoughts on topics ranging from the U.S. education system, the criminal justice system and immigration. It also explores what being "Black enough" really means, the African American electorate and even the Senator's personal thoughts on hip hop and what is playing on his iPod.

In the second special, Johnson sits down with Senator Hillary Rodham Clinton, the woman who once stood before America in the East Wing and is now looking to lead America in the West Wing and become the first female Commander-in-Chief. Viewers will get a glimpse into Senator Clinton's thoughts on her rivals, her passions, and what sets her apart. Also, Senator Clinton's campaign ace has been husband Bill Clinton, and his presidency endeared them both to African Americans. Will her husband's influence and connection with the Black community be enough to earn her the Black vote and give her a win?

From the Specials:

When asked about the questions if he is "Black enough," Obama said, "As we've progressed over time, and people become more familiar with my track record, then they feel like this is the guy I'm going to vote for not because he's Black, but because he's got a track record and is working on racial profiling, and giving health care to kids, and dealing with wrongful convictions...The other thing I've got to always say when people say, 'Are you Black enough?' is, 'Well, compared to whom?'"

Obama also expressed his taste in hip hop, both old school and new, as well as the challenges the genre faces. "The thing about hip hop today is it's smart, it's insightful, and the way that they can communicate a complex message in a very short space is remarkable...I understand people want to be rooted in the community, they want to be down, but what I always say is that hip hop is not just a mirror of what is. It should also be a reflection of what can be."

These BET News specials are only one aspect of BET Networks' integrated, non-partisan national election coverage. BET News will be running a branded series of weekly and daily news briefs, and will have special coverage of the Democratic and Republican conventions. In addition, BET will air special public service announcements emphasizing the importance of voting and key election issues impacting its audiences, and will include election/issue updates on BET shows, such as 106 & PARK.

Online, BET.com is developing a special election microsite with features including blogs, polls, people on the street interviews and a link to a voter registration site. BET.com recently named Barack Obama its Person of the Year in the Politics category, and in his interview, this is what he had to say:

"I did not run for the presidency to fulfill some long-held ambition or because I believed it was somehow owed to me. I chose to run in this election -- at this moment -- because of what Dr. King called 'the fierce urgency of now.' Because we are at a defining moment in our history. Our time is now. I believe it's time for this generation to make its own mark - to write our own chapter in the American story. After all, those who came before us did not strike a blow against injustice only so that we would allow injustice to fester in our time."

In the community, BET will hold a series of grassroots events to encourage local voter registration and awareness. BET Networks is partnering with a number of organizations, including Rock the Vote, the CBC Foundation, Urban League, Black Youth Vote, Urban Radio Network, National Coalition for Black Civic Participation, Hip Hop Action Network, Pan-Hell, Joint Center for Political Studies, NAACP and National Urban League on these community events.

The Obama and Clinton WHAT'S IN IT FOR US? specials are the first in a series of BET News specials that will explore how life in Black America would change if a particular candidate wins in 2008. Pamela Gentry of BET serves as executive producer of WHAT'S IN IT FOR US?. Tiffany Tate and Andre Showell are producers. Keith Brown is Vice President of News & Public Affairs, BET.

Important Upcoming Voter Registration Deadline Information

* If you are not currently registered to vote you have until January 11, 2008 to register for the Presidential Primary.

* If you are already registered to vote and want to vote in the Presidential Primary on February 5, 2008 but you are not registered in the Party whose primary you want to vote in, unfortunately the deadline for changing your party has passed. Any change of party registration now will not take effect until after the General Election in 2008. All other changes will take effect immediately.

To register:

1. You must be 18 years of age by the date of the election in which you want to vote
2. You must be a United States Citizen
3. You must be a resident of Monroe County for 30 days prior to the election
4. You must not be in jail or on parole for a felony conviction
5. You must not be claiming the right to vote elsewhere

Instructions: Registering In Person

Registration forms are available at most government offices, banks, post offices, libraries, and Tops Supermarkets or you may register in person at the Monroe County Board of Elections Office, 39 W. Main Street, Rochester, New York (Monday through Friday between 9:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m.).

Choosing the Correct Form

When registering to vote via the DMV make sure you receive the correct form. One form allows you to register for the first time, the other form is used if you've moved within Monroe County and wish to notify the Board of Elections of your new address to maintain active voting status. Also note it can take up to a month for registrations

from the DMV and other social service agencies to reach the board. Therefore your registration will be postmarked timely as of the date received by the Monroe County Board of Elections.

Requesting a Voter's Registration Over the Phone

Call 585 753-1550 and a registration form will be sent to you in the mail to complete and return.

If you want to vote in an election, you must mail or deliver your completed registration form to the Board of Elections no later than 25 days before the election in which you want to vote. Your eligibility to vote will be based on the date you file this form, and the county board will notify you of such.

Re-Registering or Changing Your Information

* Once you register, you are permanently registered unless you move.

* Name, address or party enrollment changes can be made by submitting a new registration form in any manner permitted for a registration application. * If you move, your notice of change of address must be received by the Board of Elections up to:

* 20 days before the election in which you seek to vote.

o If you have missed the 20 day deadline, you may contact the Board of Elections for your new polling site where you will be allowed to vote on a paper ballot.

* A change of enrollment takes effect following the first general election occurring at least 25 days after the form is filed.

For more information visit the Monroe County Board of Elections website at <http://www.monroecounty.gov/elections-index.php>

Minority Reporter

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Minority Reporter newspaper is a weekly community newspaper that serves the needs of the "minority" community, especially African-Americans in Rochester, NY. The newspaper focuses on "building community" among our readers and reaching out to our counterparts of diverse race and culture.

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Buffalo Civil Rights Advocate Exonerated

by Rick Kern

A judge recently accepted a recommendation by Tulsa County District Attorney Tim Harris to exonerate nearly 60 black people charged in a 1921 indictment related to the worst race riot in American history. Among those who had their names cleared, was Andrew J. Smitherman, a journalist who was jailed at the time and later moved to Buffalo, New York.

Harris felt the dismissal of the indictment, which never resulted in any prosecutions, was in the best interest of justice and the community. Inspired when researcher Dr. Barbara Nevergold, a senior education specialist at the University of Buffalo, asked if the charges could be dropped, Harris poured through the records and studied the case. What he discovered was that the legal system had collapsed during the ghastly event and that the spirit of the law would be best fulfilled if the charges were summarily dismissed.

"As I studied the records and report released by the Tulsa Race Riot Commission," Harris told the Tulsa World News publication on December 1, 2007, "it became clear to me that the rule of law which governs our search for the truth in our criminal justice system broke down during this tragic event; and justice would best be served if charges were dismissed against not only Mr. Smitherman, but all defendants."

"The DA felt the right to a speedy trial had been compromised and that the charges could not be substantiated," Nevergold explained, "but the indictment had been left open so long due to the murder charge."

The historic uprising annihilated what Booker T. Washington called "America's Black Wall Street" and on June 1, 1921, it was left in ruins as a result of the devastating riot. While some official estimates place fatalities at 10 whites and 26 blacks, unverified reports said 300 lives were lost to the senseless violence.

The disaster reportedly resulted in the looting of countless homes owned by African Americans with 1,256 private residences burned to the ground. Community institutions did not escape either. A black hospital, school, and one of the nation's largest black-owned hotels were torched along with Tulsa's premier black church. Black pedestrians were shot at and more than 7,500 local black citizens became instant refugees, most rounded up and forced into an internment camp at an area fair-ground. The riot left almost the entire black community homeless at the hands of white men, the majority of who are said to have sported police badges.

The fuse was lit May 30, 1921, when a black man, Dick Rowland, entered an elevator operated by a woman named Sarah Page. Apparently Rowland stepped on her foot causing her to lose

her balance. Page let out a scream when Rowland reached out to steady her. Rowland, knowing what the perception could be, panicked and ran from the elevator.

The riot exploded the next day when Rowland was formally accused of sexual attack and jailed. A local newspaper is reported to have foolishly incited hostilities with an editorial that encouraged Rowland's lynching. Enflaming public opinion, talk of hanging the man spread, drawing a white mob that surrounded the courthouse.

The black community, in turn, was justifiably alarmed and prepared to defend Rowland. For though it was only halfway through 1921, Americans had reportedly lynched more than 50 blacks across the country that year.

A.J. Smitherman, an African-American editor of the black newspaper, the Tulsa Star, encouraged his readers to arm themselves and be ready to "take life if need be to uphold the law" and prevent the lynching.

With tensions running high, 75 armed black men approached the sheriff and offered to protect Rowland from the vigilantes in a lawful manner. The sheriff declined their offer.

And then it began.

A white man is said to have attempted to disarm one of the black men. During the ensuing struggle over the gun, it discharged. Fighting broke out as the incident ignited a violent racial clash, which lasted through the night and destroyed 35 city blocks.

A. J. Smitherman was a journalist and activist for the black community in Tulsa. His thought provoking articles, especially the endorsement of deadly force to resist lynching, made him a natural target; he was indicted on charges of inciting the deadly race riot. Both he and his brother, John, a Tulsa County deputy sheriff, were arrested but while A. J. posted bond and was released a few days later, John remained locked up for more than a month. However, once released, he went on to serve the Tulsa Police Department for more than 20 years.

Smitherman took his family and fled Tulsa making brief stops in Massachusetts before settling in Buffalo in 1925. He called the Queen City home for 36 years, managing to land a \$100 loan and launch a successful newspaper, the Buffalo Star, (eventually renamed the Empire Star), during The Great Depression. The paper picked up where the Tulsa Star left off, becoming a well-respected voice in the black community and galvanizing them into somewhat of a force to be reckoned with.

Speaking of Smitherman, Nevergold said, "I thought it was quite remarkable to be able to regroup and rebound in order to have an impact on another

Community Speak Out against "Zero Tolerance"

by Freddie Caldwell

On December 19, 2007 a "Community Speak Out" was held, designed to give the community an opportunity to grade the Police Department's Zero Tolerance effectiveness. The event was sponsored by the Genesee Valley ACLU, Metro Justice Racial Justice Committee. In attendance were representatives from the Urban League, NAACP, ABC, Police Dept., RCSA, and citizens from the community, for it was their night to speak out.

The community has been bombarded with praises of the success of this effort. We have been told the cost of this effort, how many guns have been seized, how many arrests have been made, and how many lives have been saved. If one had only the media to speak on this issue the grade would be an (A) +.

But if you had been present you would have gotten the other side of the story. The Speak Out addressed these questions: What has been the impact? What are your rights when confronted by the police? How long will this Zero Tolerance effort last? What could the \$50,000 dollars in overtime for the police be used for to address violence?

The event was attended by 200 people, a third of whom were white, and they were just as concerned as the rest of the audience. There were about 37 community speakers expressing their opinion on Zero Tolerance. The count was 5 people in support, and 32 against.

In my opinion the issues raised by the adult speakers are as old as the poor relationship with the poor community and the police. Police misconduct and disrespect for poor people of color and poor whites who live in the neighborhood, did not start with Zero Tolerance. The distrust of the police and brutality toward the poor in this community is not a result of Zero Tolerance; it is the other way around.

At this Speak Out we heard stories of women being arrested by the police and taken out barefooted into the snow. This has happened hundreds of times in this community. Stories of young black men being arrested because they look like the suspect, cuffed, released, and told "sorry for the inconvenience". This has happened hundreds of times in this community and we can go back 40 years. All this happened before Zero Tolerance. If the police change their tactics on how they address crime, the

criminals make adjustments also. So the grade from the community on Zero Tolerance was an (F) -.

Two things came across very clear from the Speak Out. The people who have been mistreated by the police during October through December 2007 are not aware of their right to complain about the police. We are all aware that community people will not go to the police department and complain, but it was well received that they can go to the Center for Dispute Settlement and lodge a complaint.

The most outstanding thing for the entire evening was the young people speaking out. There were young people from different ethnic backgrounds and they were fantastic. Some of these young people serve on the Mayor's Youth Advisory Committee; some of them were from the MCTP Metro Council for Teen Potential, and Teen Empowerment.

These young people brought the message to the adults that the schools have teachers in them that pay no attention to the students. They are told by the teachers, "No one cares about you, not even your own people, so why should I care?" The police mistreat them and use more profanity than the young people in the streets.

The drugs are not sold on the streets, because they are sold in the schools. They talked about one of my favorite things, voting. One of the young people asked all the adult speakers if they were registered voters. You know the answer. The young people talked about people calling HHS (Health and Human Services) about their food stamps, but they won't call and complain about police wrongdoing. They were great!

The young people said the \$50,000 dollars could be use to pay responsible adults to manage after school programs. This money could be used to pay community people, who have no jobs, to get involved in fighting violence in the community. The money instead is paid to police officers who don't live in the city.

The young people said that the police know where the drugs are and they know who is selling them. They were all opposed to the Zero Tolerance policy.

Freddie L. Caldwell is Deputy Director for Community Services with Action for a Better Community, Inc.

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Civil Rights

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Dr. Barbara Nevergold

community."

A father of six, he fought and prevailed against being extradited back to Tulsa with the help of the NAACP. Smitherman, a law school graduate, who made an unsuccessful bid for a seat on Buffalo's Common Council, was a devout Catholic, an outspoken activist, and a staunch Democrat until age 77, when he passed away at his desk while writing his memoirs.

Dr. Nevergold became interested in Smitherman when she and colleague Peggy

Brooks-Bertram unearthed the Tulsa saga and his connection to Buffalo while

researching candidates for their Uncrowned Queens and Kings project. The inspirational venture documents the lives and accomplishments of notable, but largely unsung African-Americans in Western New York. Founded by the two women, the project has also established a model for the development of oral history projects that is now nationally recognized as a method of describing the cultural, economic, and social histories of entire regions.

The more she learned about the riot and Smitherman's life, the more persuaded Nevergold became that he had been wrongfully accused. During her research she discovered that the charges against another man in the case had been dismissed at the request of his family. Inspired, she contacted Tulsa County District Attorney Tim Harris who ultimately agreed to review the case. The rest is history.

Forty-six years after Smitherman's death, Dr. Nevergold found herself in Tulsa attending a ceremonial court hearing to formally dismiss the 86 year-old indictment filed against the courageous journalist and 55 others.

Speaking to the Buffalo News December 11, 2007, Dr. Nevergold reflected, "It became clear to me that Mr. Smitherman was a man of integrity, honesty and high morals, which is why it is so important to me to clear his name at this late date."

While Smitherman and his co-defendants have been vindicated, the closure is not complete. In 1997, The Tulsa Race Riot Commission was formed to investigate the Tulsa Race Riot of 1921. The investigation drew the support of heavy hitters such as the late Johnnie Cochran, the renowned attorney who defended O.J. Simpson. The Commission recommended reparation be granted to the survivors and descendents of the riot's victims, however the state of Oklahoma denied the proposal. The battle has lulled but is hardly over.

Astonishingly, the bloody siege is rarely found in history books, especially Oklahoma's history books even though it took nearly a decade to rebuild and recover from it. It seems that many in Tulsa feel the past should stay in the past and the Tulsa Race Riot is old news, but Dr. Nevergold sadly disagrees. "Many survivors have deep and painful memories and they should not be forgotten," she laments. "It is particularly disturbing to me because our past history impacts our current history."

A Weak U.S. Dollar could help our exports

by Joseph Glasgow, Ph.D.



A weak U.S. dollar on the world currency markets boosts sales prospects for U.S. exporters but spells higher prices for American consumers already experiencing rising food and energy costs.

A weak dollar increases the chances of higher inflation. This however, certainly put the Federal Reserve Chairman, Ben Bernanke, in a tough position to either tolerate rising inflating or raising interest rates to curtail it - even if that makes the emerging economic slowdown worse.

The U.S. dollar began sliding more than a year ago. The trend accelerated and became evident at the beginning of the last quarter of 2007 when the Fed's lowered its benchmark federal funds rate by a half-point. This became apparent - when one euro, the currency of 13 nations in the European Union, bought a record \$1.4097. Similarly, one Canadian dollar was valued about one U.S. dollar, the first time the two currencies have been at parity since 1976. A year ago, the euro bought almost \$1.27, and a U.S. dollar bought \$1.12 Canadian dollars.

Paradoxically, the aforementioned numbers mean that U.S. products are more price-competitive on the world market. Asians, Europeans, and Latin American countries can buy U.S. made products at cheaper prices.

For the U.S. manufacturers, it remains somewhat unclear. For example - automobiles assembled in Alabama and Detroit, and airplanes made by Boeing, are now cheaper on the world market. However, both automobiles and airplanes contain

several main components made in foreign countries, so the impact of the weak dollar is turbid. For the American consumers, whose spending power drives three-fourths of the U.S. economy and who are increasingly dependent on low-priced consumer goods from China, Mexico, and India and elsewhere, higher prices may be on the horizon...

Anytime the U.S. dollar becomes weaker, the goods imported for sale in the U.S. economy also become more expensive. This simply means anything from toothpaste to office equipment that is manufactured in China.

Conversely, for a Wal-Mart type business, the largest importer of Chinese-made goods, the weak dollar is less-likely to negatively impact it any time soon since Wal-Mart has standing foreign contracts in dollars, and source almost a fifth of its goods from overseas stores. On the other hand, as Wal-Mart signs contracts to buy foreign made goods with depreciating dollars, it will have to pay more - and thus, may pass on those higher costs to you, the consumer, as higher prices.

The biggest risk of the U.S. economy from a weak dollar is that it will drive up inflation and raise prices across the economy, as import prices increase. The weak dollar also drives up the prices of oil and other commodities that are traded internationally in dollars contracts. Foreign manufacturers/producers of such commodities raise their prices to ensure that they retain the same purchasing power they had before the dollar weakened.

Ultimately, my view is that the U.S. produces dollars and the rest of the world produces things that dollars can buy. The world's interlinked economies no longer trade to capture comparative advantage; they compete to capture needed dollars to service dollar-denominated foreign debts and to accumulate dollar reserves to sustain exchange value of their domestic currencies.

Joseph Glasgow, Ph.D., resides in Rochester, NY and is an Adjunct (Int'l Business & Economic) Faculty, University of Phoenix.

Happy New Year!

Read and Reap!

Success in the New Year
by Denise Josephs

Many of us have set goals for the New Year. We call these goals New Year resolutions. Studies show these resolutions seldom result in success. The following are a few tips to help ensure you achieve the goals you have set for 2008.

First, set SMART goals. A smart goal is: Specific, measurable, achievable, relevant, and time-bound. Just to say "I want to lose weight" is not a SMART goal. A SMART goal may be better expressed by saying "I want to lose twenty pounds by June 21st, just in time for the summer." It is specific (I want to lose weight); measurable (I want to lose twenty pounds); certainly achievable; more than likely relevant to your overall mission to look good and to be healthy; and time-bound, or in other words, has a deadline (I want to lose twenty pounds by June 21st.)

Secondly, enlist people you know to help you accomplish your goals. Doing so will decrease the risk of failure. Many times we fail, not for lack of know how, but for lack of a support system. Successful people usually know by name, far more people than most. They can quickly tap current telephone numbers for a bottomless group of people for almost anything they need. They stay in touch with school friends, call their old professors, and maintain contact with former colleagues. They regularly send off notes, small gifts, and so forth.

To accomplish something of significance you need at least one person who believes in your abilities, encourages you and stands behind you. Forget the lone ranger act. We all could use a little help. Consider people who have helped you in the past, or with whom you have had a business or personal relationship. Share your goals with them. Make yourself accountable to them. Give them permission to check up on you and find out how you are getting along.



Thirdly, track your progress. There is a maxim that says, "what does not get measured does not get done", or in other words what is not monitored generally ends up falling by the wayside. So, for instance, if your goal is to lose twenty pounds by June 21st, weigh yourself periodically to track your progress.

By setting SMART goals, enlisting people to help you, and tracking your progress, you have already made significant strides to a successful New Year!

Denise M. Josephs is an educator, speaker and writer. She is a former adjunct faculty member of Houghton College -PCMP and serves on its Board of Governors. Ms. Josephs has a Masters of Business Administration, and owns her own company, DeNicest Concepts. She is currently pursuing a Masters of Divinity degree at Northeastern Seminary.

Celebrate African American Inventors at the Rochester Museum & Science Center

Rochester, NY -

In honor of Martin Luther King Jr. Day, the Rochester Museum & Science Center invites visitors to explore and celebrate the contributions of African American inventors and scientists who have shaped our technology and enriched our lives. "Trains, Transfusions, and Beautiful Hair" features fun, hands-on activities for the whole family from 11am-4pm on Monday, January 21.

-- Learn about engineer Elijah McCoy, whose 57-patented inventions included a new lubricating system that served the steam engines of the early twentieth century. Make your own locomotive from recycled materials!

-- Discover how Dr. Charles Drew devised a system for storing blood plasma and established the American Red Cross Blood Bank. Turn water into a sample of "blood" to take home.

-- Find out how Madam C. J. Walker built a business empire by formulating and marketing hair and beauty products. Invent your own all-natural "fruit smoothie" hair conditioner.

-- Take the Jeopardy Quiz to and see how many inventors you can remember.

-- Learn about contemporary African American scientists and engineers. You can follow in their footsteps!

The program is free with Museum admission: \$9 adults, \$8 seniors and college students, \$7 children and teens (ages 3-18), free for RMSC members and children under 3.

Rochester Museum & Science Center (RMSC) receives major funding from Monroe County. RMSC includes a planetarium, nature center and science/regional history museum. The mission of the RMSC is to create inspiring, entertaining, and educational experiences engaging the community in the exploration of science and technology, the natural environment, and our region's cultural heritage. For more information about RMSC, see <http://www.rmssc.org>.


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- Male Cook Event - Sunday, June 1, 2008
Riverside Convention Center, 123 East Main Street at 4:00 pm
- Black Scholars Recognition Dinner - Tuesday, June 3, 2008
Riverside Convention Center, 123 East Main Street at 6:00 pm

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face to the name



Lydia Boddie-Rice

Profile: Lydia Boddie- (pronounced body) Rice is the Manager of Public Affairs at Rochester Gas and Electric Corporation. She is primarily responsible for managing Community and local Government Affairs and managing the Company's Corporate Charitable Giving Program. Although she has been with RG&E for over ten years, Ms. Boddie-Rice has been a Rochester community leader for many years. She was the Director of the Center at High Falls, and Commissioner of the Rochester Board of Education prior to her employment at RG&E.

She is or has been a member of an exhaustive list of Boards and committees, including, but not limited to LifeSpan, Rochester Community Baseball, and the Rochester Broadway Theatre League.

Lydia holds a bachelor's degree from Brown University and a masters degree from Rhode Island College. She also earned her teaching certification for kindergarten through 12th grade from the Rhode Island School of Design. She has received numerous honors and awards for her professional contributions and expertise such as but not limited to: 2005 "W" Award finalist, 2002 March of Dimes Mother of the Year Award, 2000 and 2001 Athena nominations and recipient of the Urban League's Businessperson of the Year (2000) award. Finally, on a personal note, Lydia is the proud parent of two daughters, Leah, a DiveMaster and Aquarist at the Baltimore Aquarium, and Amber, who currently works at Verizon and is the mother of Azaria, her first grandchild. She is married to Gregory Rice, owner of Vance Curves Custom Metal in Rochester, NY.

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Monroe County Workforce Investment Board
Rochester Broadway Theatre League
Girl Scouts of Genesee Valley Honorary Board
Rural Opportunities, Inc. Board of Advisors
Rochester Community Baseball, Inc.
LifeSpan
Corn Hill Navigation
Memberships

Past:

Elected Official: Commissioner of Education,
Rochester City School District, 1996-2000

Boards of Directors:

Arts & Cultural Council
Better Business Bureau/Fair Business Council
Genesee Hospital Board of Governors
Genesee Health Service Board of Directors
March of Dimes
Memorial Art Gallery
Rochester Public Library
Rural Opportunities, Inc. Board of Advisors
Seneca Park Zoo Society
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If there is no struggle, there is no progress. Those who profess to favor freedom, and deprecate agitation, are men who want crops without plowing up the ground, they want rain without thunder and lightning.

~Frederick Douglas