

# VOICES

A QUARTERLY PUBLICATION FROM A GOOD BLACK MAN, INC.

OCTOBER 2004

## Welcome Message from the President

Dear Friends and Supporters, welcome to the premiere edition of **Voices**, the official newsletter for A Good Black Man, Inc. (AGBM, Inc., a 501(c) non-profit organization.). We are so pleased to be able to bring this quarterly publication to you.

We're fresh off the heels of our Third Annual Legacy of Excellence Awards Celebration. Now, we're gearing up to launch our educational programs. Our goals are to ensure that African-American men are widely portrayed in ways that reflect their humanity and that transcend the negative stereotypes offered by mainstream media; to provide programs and experiences that uplift, support, and buttress against negative peer pressure faced by African-American boys and young men; and to provide – through the sharing of experiences of those who have overcome and prospered -- a "road map" for success to young African-American men so that they are better equipped to take their places in society. We hope you'll join us.

Enjoy!  
**D. Anne Brownne**  
 President  
 A Good Black Man, Inc.

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It's a celebration! It's about honoring those who are our heroes, those who have passed the baton, who are keepers of the flame, who are



2004 "Our Better Halves" Award Recipient Avon J. Bellamy

our better halves, and those who are our future! Avon J. Bellamy, Charles Dugger, David Miller, Farajii J. Muhammad and Herman Williams, Jr. received the 2004 Legacy of Excellence Award on Saturday, 17 July 2004 beginning with a sponsors reception at 2:00 P.M. in the Fine Arts Theatre on the Liberty campus of Baltimore City Community in Baltimore, Maryland.

## Upcoming Events

**Men's Speak Out Against Family and Community Violence:** Saturday, October 30th, between 3:00pm - 5:00pm in historic East Baltimore at St. Wenseclaus Church located at 2111 Ashland Ave Baltimore, MD 21205.

**The 6th Annual Youth & College Leadership Summit "Apathy to Action: Mobilizing a New Generation of Leaders"** November 19 - 21, 2004 Washington Convention Center Washington, DC  
[www.nllc.org/summit2004](http://www.nllc.org/summit2004)

**New Light Leadership Coalition Conference Committee Meeting:** Tuesday, October 5, 2004 7:30pm - 9:00pm 28 Allegheny Avenue Suite 503 [www.nllc.org/summit2004](http://www.nllc.org/summit2004) Planning meeting for the 6<sup>th</sup> Annual Youth & College Leadership Summit scheduled for November 19 - 21, 2004 at the Washington DC Convention Center.

## Black History Fact:

On February 26, 1926 Carter G. Woodson started Negro History Week. This week would later become Black History Month.

## Reader's Choice

IN SEARCH OF FATHERHOOD(R) -- TRANSCENDING BOUNDARIES by D. A. Sears mirrors the intense dialogue that is being conducted in the International Community on Fatherhood through articles by and interviews with noted fathers. Call: 1-888-795-4274 - Ext 276.

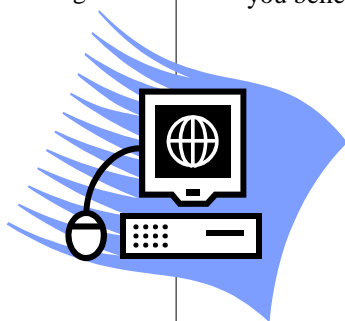


## AGBM.com Partnership Opportunities

The stage is set. Now all we need is you. [www.agoodblackman.com](http://www.agoodblackman.com) is honored to provide the forum for rediscovering legacies of excellence. We welcome you to become a part of this vital initiative by sharing your resources through any of the following AGBM Partnership plans.

**POSITIVITY PARTNERS: WE NEED YOU** to tell the story like only you can. Submit your stories, memories, poetry, accolades and facts about the good black men that you have known. We know they're out there... help us to share them with the world.

**CONTENT PARTNERS: WE NEED YOU** to keep us informed. Are you a resource for information about your community or for news that affects the African American community at large? Do you publish inspirational and educational information and want to expand the reach of your message? If you are an experienced writer, let AGBM provide



you with an audience that is hungry for what you have to say.


**CONTRIBUTING PARTNERS: WE NEED YOU** to help us to maintain and expand this worthwhile initiative. If you believe in the mission of this website and want to take an active role in it's growth, then consider financial support. Whether you choose to make a charitable contribution or you'd prefer a visible advertising presence, AGBM is good ground in which to sow seed. Establish your

identity as supporter of a much-needed resource for our community.

**PORTAL PARTNERS: WE NEED YOU** to help us fan the flame. Do you have a website with that promotes the same positive values and goals of AGBM? Then, let's discuss the many cross-promotional opportunities open to us through the Internet's global reach. Let's take advantage of strength in numbers.

“Submit your stories, memories, poetry, accolades and facts about the good Black men that you have known.”

## For The Health of It

 The mortality from prostate cancer is higher in black Americans than in all other races. This is due to a higher incidence, more advanced stage at diagnosis, and lower rate of survival. (Source: [www.allaboutblackhealth.com](http://www.allaboutblackhealth.com))

**NOTICE:** All For The Health Of It content is provided for general information only, and should not be treated as a substitute for the medical advice of your own doctor or any other health care professional.

## On The Net

**POSITIVE PAGES FOR BLACK YOUTH:** Afri-Creations offer technology, community involvement, education, rites of passage, etc., for Black youth at [www.africreations.com/Youth-Page.html](http://www.africreations.com/Youth-Page.html).



## Healing Affirmations

**H**appiness is obeying God's will, for following his law will open the gates of paradise. — Taken from an African proverb (Swahili) provided by Dr. John T. Chissell.



 **RSVP** Letters to the Editor

Your community notes, comments submissions and questions will be welcomed at [info@agoodblackman.com](mailto:info@agoodblackman.com) and published as space allows.

## *Celebrating A Legacy of Excellence: The Third Annual Legacy of Excellence Awards*

“This year’s third annual event received letters of support from Congressman Elijah Cummings, Lieutenant Governor Michael S. Steele, Baltimore Mayor Martin O’Malley and County Councilman Kenneth Oliver.”

Throughout the year A Good Black Man, Inc. goes about the business of showcasing positive African American males on its website, [www.agoodblackman.com](http://www.agoodblackman.com).

Each month, web designer D. Anne Browne makes the literal and virtual journey into countless communities on a quest to find the “real-life” examples of African American males

who reject the norm and defy the odds by becoming shining examples of the husbands, sons, fathers, brothers and friends we need them to be. They are given a permanent place on the web site and in the hearts of the AGBM family.

Each year AGBM personally thanks a handful of those males who have given their time and their selves to protect, nurture and empower us. The Legacy of

Excellence Awards were bestowed to five men who exemplify the gateways of [www.agoodblackman.com](http://www.agoodblackman.com). This year, **Avon Bellamy** received the ‘Our Better Halves’ award. The ‘Keepers of the

Flame’ award went to **Charles Dugger**. The ‘Our Heroes’ award was presented to **Herman Williams, Jr.** **David Miller** received the ‘Passing The Baton’ award and the ‘Our Future’ award was given to **Farajii J. Muhammad**. The keynote speaker was Highland Beach Mayor, **Crystal Chissell** — daughter of the late Dr. John T.



D. Anne Browne & LOE event emcee — WBAL-TV Anchor Stan Stovall

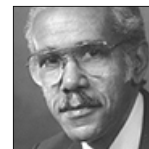
Chissell. The emcee for the evenings’ festivities was WBAL-TV anchor Stan Stovall. This major fundraising effort for AGBM is to benefit the Legacy of Excellence (educational) Programs. Preparations for the 2005 Legacy of Excellence Award Celebration and publication of its Souvenir Program Journal have already begun. For more information call 410-637-5451.

### *Money Matters*



A person who smokes a carton of cigarettes a week at \$32.00 per carton spends about \$1,664 year. If that same amount was invested with a 10% return for 5 years, it would grow to \$10,158. After 10 years the smokers investment would be \$26,519.

### *Celebrations of Life*



We celebrate the life and legacy of our friend, mentor and father, Dr. John T. Chissell. For more information about this

“Optimal Ancestor” visit

[www.agoodblackman.com/DrJohn/tribute\\_passage.shtml](http://www.agoodblackman.com/DrJohn/tribute_passage.shtml)

### MAKE YOUR VOICE OF SUPPORT HEARD!

Ads and sponsorship opportunities are now being accepted for the 2005 Legacy of Excellence Awards Celebration and Souvenir Program Journal. Email us at [info@agoodblackman.com](mailto:info@agoodblackman.com) for ad sizes and rates. Hurry, Space is limited. Call: 410-637-5451 today! Volunteers are needed to assist with the Legacy of Excellence workshops and camps for African American male youth (11-14 years). To apply, please email [info@agoodblackman.com](mailto:info@agoodblackman.com).



P.O. Box 692  
Randallstown, MD 21133  
410-637-5451

See you online at:  
[www.agoodblackman.com](http://www.agoodblackman.com)

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services. 410-637-7370  
[www.camerareadycafe.com](http://www.camerareadycafe.com)



**In This Issue...**

Legacy of Excellence Awards Update ● Resources for Fathers ● Partnership Opportunities

***Bits & Bytes: Online Resources for Fathers***

**American Prostrate Society -**

7188 Ridge Road, Hanover, MD 21807.  
Telephone: 410-859-3735. Fax:  
410-850-0818. Its e-mail address  
is [info@ameripros.org](mailto:info@ameripros.org).



**National Diabetes Informati  
on Clearing House -**

1 Information Way, Bethesda,  
MD 20982-3560. Telephone: 1-  
800-860-8747 or 301-654-3327.  
Fax: 301-907-8906. On the web  
at [www.diabetes.niddk.nih.gov](http://www.diabetes.niddk.nih.gov)  
Email: [ndic@info.mddk.nih.gov](mailto:ndic@info.mddk.nih.gov).

**National Fatherhood Initiative -**

101 Lake Forest Boulevard, Suite 360,  
Gaithersburg, MD 20877. For general  
information, Mondays through Fridays

from 9:00 AM to 5:00 PM, call 1-800-790-  
DADS. Telephone 301-948-0599. Fax  
301-948-4325.

**Single & Custodial Fathers' Network -**

Contact: John R. Sims, Jr., Executive Di-  
rector of The Single and Custodial Fathers'  
Network at One Parks Bend, Suite 213,  
Box 31, Vandergrift, PA 15690. Tele-  
phone: 724-845-9767 or 724-388-3237.

**The National Fathers Network -**

16120 N.E. Eighth Street, Bellevue, WA  
98008-3937. Telephone: 425-747-4004 -  
Ext. 218. Fax: 425-747-1069. E-mail  
messages can be sent to the organization's  
Executive Director at  
[jmay@fathersnetwork.org](mailto:jmay@fathersnetwork.org)

HAVE A RESOURCE TO SHARE? EMAIL  
US AT [INFO@AGOODBLACKMAN.COM](mailto:INFO@AGOODBLACKMAN.COM)

