



# ON FAIR GROUND

A SEMIANNUAL FAIR HOUSING NEWSLETTER OF THE LEXINGTON - FAYETTE URBAN COUNTY HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION

Volume 5 Issue 2

Fall 2003

## NINTH ANNUAL FAIR HOUSING LUNCHEON



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Approximately two-hundred and fifty people joined the LFUC Human Rights Commission to celebrate April as fair housing month and to listen to motivating guest speaker, Cory Booker.

The 2003 Fair Housing Luncheon was the last year for Housing Committee Chair, Commissioner Carolyn Edwards. Commissioner Edwards' second term with the



Commission ends in December 2003. The Commission and staff honored Commissioner Edwards with a gift basket of goodies of her favorite college team, the University of Kentucky Wildcats, of course! Commissioner Edwards' deep commitment to fair housing

and all Commission endeavors will be greatly missed. However, the Commission staff is already thinking of ways we can involve her as a "non-commissioner volunteer" !



This year also marked the Second Annual Police Community Relations Award Program and the Sixth Annual

*(Continued on page 2)*

*Top: Cory Booker. Middle: Executive Director, William Wharton, Commissioner Carolyn Edwards, Lexington-Bluegrass Association of Realtors President, Carl Tackett. Bottom: Harrison Elementary Fair Housing Coloring Contest finalists, with Third-grade Teacher, Jane Hellmann, and Principal Diane Wiles.*

(Continued from page 1)

Harrison Elementary Fair Housing Coloring Contest. The Police Community Relations Awards program honors outstanding police officers in the Lexington-Fayette County community who go above and beyond the call of duty to foster stronger relationships between police and community and to educate constituents about crime prevention. The 2003 award recipients were Assitant Chief Ronnie Bastin, Officer Lyn Borders, and Sergeant Chris Townsend, all from the Lexington-Fayette Urban County Division of Police. The Harrison Elementary School Fair Housing Coloring Contest is part of the Commission's cultural diversity and fair housing awareness program at the school. The intent of the program is to expose students to programs on cultural diversity and to inform students and guardians/parents about fair housing rights. Ten student finalists from the school's third-grade class are invited to the fair housing luncheon as guests of the commission where each student receives an award and meets the mayor.

Guest speaker, Cory Booker, former Newark, NJ city councilman and community activist, spoke to the crowd about empowering urban America and revitalizing communities.

Booker said that his parents impressed upon him that a person can do anything that they put their mind to and not to let anyone tell him there was something he could not do. This is the message he brought to Lexington, that there isn't anything we can not do to empower urban Lexington and revitalize our community.

Booker also stressed the need to view a community the way you want it to look and then take the action steps necessary to make your dream become a reality. He is known nationally as an advocate for urban residents who seeks to improve their quality of life through innovative and bold actions. In 2000, Booker earned the title "Savior of Newark" from *TIME* magazine for bold actions such as living in a motor home in some of the worst drug areas of the city, inspiring residents and businesses to fight against drug dealing and crime. Booker left the crowd with his contagious energy and the saying echoing in their minds, "My Mama said that I can do anything."

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For more photos of the luncheon visit our web site at [www.lfuchrc.org](http://www.lfuchrc.org) click on Fair Housing, scroll down to events and click on 2003 Fair Housing Luncheon.



**THANK YOU  
COMMISSIONER  
CAROLYN  
EDWARDS  
FOR  
YOUR YEARS OF  
service on the  
commission  
and  
DEDICATION  
TO  
FURTHERING  
FAIR HOUSING  
IN OUR  
COMMUNITY.**

**WE WILL MISS  
YOU!**



## 2003 POLICE COMMUNITY RELATIONS AWARD RECIPIENTS



NOMINATE A  
LAW ENFORCEMENT  
OFFICER  
at  
[www.lfuchrc.org](http://www.lfuchrc.org)  
or contact  
Ray Sexton  
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*(l) Sergeant Chris Townsend,  
Assistant Chief Ronnie Bastin,  
and Officer Lynn Borders.*

The 2003 Police Community Relations Award recipients make outstanding contributions on many levels in the Lexington Community. Assistant Chief Ronnie Bastin, Lexington-Fayette Urban County (LFUC) Division of Police, commands the Bureau of Training and is responsible for all training and recruiting for the Division of Police. Assistant Chief Bastin's leadership and perseverance are largely responsible for the success of the Advanced Language Program (Spanish Immersion) which is used as a model for police departments across the country and received the prestigious Webber Seavey Award for Quality in Law Enforcement. Officer Lynn Borders, LFUC Division of Police, is assigned to the Chief's Staff, Planning and Analysis Unit. Officer Borders completed the Advanced Language Program and teaches Spanish to new officers and provides refresher training and Spanish resources to other officers learning the language. Borders coordinates interviews on the Spanish radio station and monthly meetings between police officers and Hispanic men at the Hope Center, to facilitate multicultural understanding. Sergeant Chris Townsend, LFUC Division of Police, serves as the Patrol Supervisor for the second shift in the East Sector and as the School Liaison for Fayette County Public Schools. Sergeant Townsend works with Fayette County Public Schools on training for disaster and emergency preparedness, individual students in crisis and training to police officers on school shootings. Townsend works with businesses and neighborhoods providing education on crime prevention and support to victims of crime. Each award recipient contributes greatly to the relationship of law enforcement officers and the Lexington community in which they serve. We thank Assistant Chief Bastin, Officer Borders, and Sergeant Townsend for all they do to better our community.

### **Compliance Report - 1st Quarters of FY 2004** *July 2003 - September 2003*

#### **Cases Received:**

Employment - 45  
Housing - 8  
Public Accommodations - 1

#### **Cases Resolved:**

Employment - 64  
Housing - 6  
Public Accommodations - 1



**Quad State Fair Housing and  
Equal Opportunity Conference**

**March 3-5, 2004**

**Civil Rights Luncheon on March 4, 2004**

**Lexington, KY**

**Check out our web site for details:**

**WWW.LFUCHRC.ORG**



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