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Tour looks at darkside of Oregon's housing history

POSTED BY ADMIN ON APRIL - 6 - 2010

Local residents are invited to explore discrimination and segregation in Portland's past and present with a historic bus tour celebrating the Fair Housing Act and the Fair Housing Council of Oregon.

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The April 23 tour, entitled Fasten Your Seat Belts-It's Been a Bumpy Ride, will explore lost ethnic communities, forgotten hate crimes, Klan rallies, and groups of Oregonians who were rounded up and exiled based on their ethnic origins.

Following the bus expedition, a luncheon program will feature Kevin Boyle, author of Arc of Justice: A Saga of Race, Civil Rights and Murder in the Jazz Age. The book, which won the National Book Award for nonfiction, is heralded as a poignant biography, a tour-de-force of historical detective work, a gripping courtroom drama, and a powerful reflection on race relations in America.

Boyle captures the tensions of a period that witnessed the rebirth of the Ku Klux Klan and the flowering of the Harlem Renaissance, the crystallization of racial segregation, both north and south, and the rise of the modern civil rights movement.

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Also on the luncheon agenda is an update on discrimination in Oregon today and a performance by the dynamic Sermonettes Gospel Singers.

The two events will be held at the Ambridge Event Center in northeast Portland, from 8:30 a.m. until 2:30 p.m. The cost of the morning bus tour is \$30, \$25 for students and seniors. The luncheon cost is \$30, \$25 for students and seniors. The cost for attending both events is \$50, \$40 for students and seniors. Advance-registration is required by April 14 by visiting the Fair Housing Council of Oregon's [website](#).

For the past 20 years the Fair Housing Council of Oregon has worked to protect renters and home buyers from illegal housing discrimination based on race, color, religion, national origin, sex, familial status, disability, source of income, marital status, sexual orientation and age.

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