

HOUSING

Bus Tour Explores Hidden Histories

Celebrating Fair Housing Act

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.

The April 23 tour, entitled *Fasten Your Seat Belts-It's Been a Bumpy Ride*, will explore lost ethnic communities, forgotten hate crimes, Klan ral-

lies, 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*



Kevin Boyle

Age. The book, which won the National Book Award for non-fiction, 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. 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 fhco.org/fhmonth10.

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.

Own a home the right way.
Affordably.

We're a nonprofit serving first-time homebuyers for more than 10 years. Our average sales price was \$137,000 last year. Call us.



**Think you can't afford to buy a home?
Think again!**

Proud Ground, a nonprofit organization serving Portland since 1999, has 2 & 3 BR homes at prices you can afford in Lents and North Portland.

Our homes have fixed-rate monthly mortgage, taxes and insurance payments around \$800-1200. No subprime mortgages. No getting in over your head. And it's not too late to take advantage of the \$8,000 tax credit!

We've helped 120 families buy their first home in Portland. We can help you, too! But don't wait to get ready. Proud Ground gives priority to those on our waiting list.

To find out more about our program - including how to get on our waiting list - attend one of our FREE information sessions.

Homeownership Information Sessions:

- **North Portland**, 4th Monday of every month
Proud Ground office (5288 N. Interstate Ave.)
- **SE Portland**, 2nd Tuesday of every month
East Portland Community Center (740 SE 106th Ave)

To register or find out more:
(503) 493-0293, x 10
www.proudground.org

Dreams Start Here.

Heating Duct Inspections Offered

Residents of unincorporated Clark County now can sign up to have a free home-heating duct inspection.

The U.S. Department of Energy awarded Clark County a grant for energy conservation work, including at least \$312,000 for inspections in 700 homes. The two-year grant comes through the federal American Recovery and Reinvestment Act.

The program provides inspections to determine how much heat is leaking out of ductwork instead of reaching rooms, plus a limited energy conservation home audit. Based on the findings, the inspector will refer the

resident to private contractors who can seal the home's ducts or make other needed upgrades.

A typical duct sealing in a 1,800-square-foot house costs \$400-\$600. If the resident or homeowner uses a contractor on an approved list from the inspector, the grant will provide \$100 rebate to offset costs. Clark Public Utilities and Northwest Natural, through the Energy Trust of Oregon, also have incentives for improvements.

To sign up or see if you are eligible, contact Steve Alexander at 360-397-2375, extension 4752 or email steve.alexander@clark.wa.gov.

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