

Civil Rights: Then and Now

Social justice activists will lead the discussion

A free open-to-the-public panel discussion about the history of the Civil Rights Movement and what can be accomplished going forward will draw several Portland activists, past and present

Civil Rights: Then and Now is the topic for the Oregon Historical Society's Second Sunday Lecture Series, this Sunday, Feb. 11 at 2 p.m. Presented by Rev. Dr. LeRoy Haynes, Eric Richardson, Intisar Abioto, Percy Hampton, and



A protest for fair housing in Portland from a collection of historical prints from the Oregon Historical Society.

JoAnn Hardesty, the event will be held at the society's downtown museum. Stephen Green will fa-

ilitate the discussion

Event attendees will be able to learn about the connections

between the Civil Rights Movement of the 1960s and 1970s and the social justice movements that are currently occurring. The panelists will discuss how things have changed, how they have stayed the same, and what audience members can do to get involved.

Haynes serves as the senior pastor of Allen Temple CME Church in northeast Portland. He was a youth organizer for the Southern Christian Leadership Conference in Southeast Texas, a field organizer for the Student Non-violent Coordinating Committee, and a co-organizer of the Black Panther Party.

Richardson is president of the Eugene and Springfield NAACP. His family lived by and practiced

the idea of holding African cultural with value and dignity, and currently works to facilitate conversations on identity and cultural inclusion.

Abioto is an adventurer, dancer, photographer, and writer. She created The Black Portlanders series, an ongoing photo essay and exploratory blog imaging people of African descent in the city.

Hampton was preparing to begin studies at Portland State University when a confrontation with police brought him to the attention of Kent Ford and the city's new Black Panther Party chapter. He worked with the Panthers to establish the Fred Hampton Memorial People's Free Clinic and free breakfasts for children.

The Greatest Honor

CONTINUED FROM FRONT

Collier to make lasting friendships moving around so much, but before long he finally settled down at 14 in Las Vegas, Nev., where his dad retired. He paid his way through school by working at a dairy farm by day and attending classes, part time, at night at Uni-

versity of Nevada Las Vegas. He graduated in the late 80s with an accounting degree.

"[It was] right at the time that the savings and loan crisis erupted, primarily in Texas. And the bureau was hungry for accountants. And basically, the recruiter tackled me when he saw me," Collier said.

Collier enlisted at age 27 and

soon began the first part of his law enforcement career in San Francisco.

Collier's first criminal case was on the bank robbery squad. The robber was so nervous, Collier explained between laughs, that he had left his wallet, from which he pulled out the written note that instructed the teller it was a robbery, on the counter be-

fore making a get-away.

"That was the first and easiest case I ever worked," Collier said.

Collier went on to work more challenging cases, working with SWAT and chasing fugitives, including Ted Kaczynski, the Unabomber.

A domestic terrorist, Kaczynski made hand crafted wooden pipe bomb explosives sent through the post office that killed 3 people between 1978 and 1995. He sent bombs to universities, airliners,

and private homes. After being on the FBI's watch list since the 70s, Kaczynski was still at large in the 90s when Collier was assigned his case.

"He blew up somebody in Sacramento. And he placed a bomb in a post office in San Francisco, another one had exploded," Collier said. "We got court order surveillance on a lot of the post offices in San Francisco, just trying to catch this guy. We never got him as a result of that."



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Portland Black Panthers: Pioneering health care for all

In fall 1969, the Portland Black Panthers dished up a free daily hot breakfast for children. In January 1970, they opened a free medical clinic for all comers, then a dental clinic, in solidarity with many white groups. With each full tummy, vaccine and fixed tooth, the Portland Black Panthers fought for education, health and social justice.

This Black History Month, CareOregon recognizes the Portland Black Panthers' historic contribution to health equity.


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