

CENTRAL OREGON BUILDERS ASSOCIATION

# TOUR of HOMES™ '16

presented by: **Harcourts** The Garner Group Real Estate

## A SHOWCASE OF THE FINEST HOMES IN CENTRAL OREGON JULY 15, 16, 17 & 22, 23, 24



SHOW HOURS:

Fridays: Noon - 6 pm | Saturdays and Sundays: 10 am - 6 pm

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by Ronni Wilde, for *The Bulletin Special Projects*

The Central Oregon Builders Association (COBA) will present the 2016 Tour of Homes on the weekends of July 15-17 and July 22-24. This year's event, sponsored by Harcourts the Garner Group, marks the largest tour yet, with 60 homes scheduled to be open for viewing from noon to 6 p.m. on the two Fridays and from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. on the two Saturdays and Sundays.

"There are some amazing homes," said Nicole Meagher, COBA's event coordinator for the Tour of Homes and Chefs on Tour. "The price point is higher than ever before."

In 1989 when the event began, the price range of homes on the tour was \$60,000 to \$250,000, with several in the \$60,000 range. This year, the range (not including tiny homes) is \$330,000 to \$2.4 million, with 12 homes priced at more than \$1 million. Last year, Meagher said there were just four

homes priced at more than \$1 million.

As the price of homes climbs in the area, so does the popularity of the Tour of Homes, which showcases some of the finest properties in Central Oregon.

Last year, one builder reported that a home had 15,000 viewers walk through over the course of the six days, and in the two weeks leading up to last year's tour, there were 12,000 hits on the COBA website, with hits from every state in the United States.

"The tour is open to everyone. Anyone who has any interest in design or new construction, is moving here or just wants to look at some dream homes is welcome," said Meagher.

In addition to being open to the public, the participating builders all compete against each other in nine possible categories — including Best Value, Best Architectural Design and Best of Show —

within eight price ranges. There is also a Green Building Award competition, and special Chefs on Tour awards.

While most of the homes are single-family dwellings, there are also condominiums that will be open for viewing during the Tour of Homes for the first time in recent years. The Atrium at the Old Mill has luxury two- and three-bedroom units on the tour, and the brand new Basecamp Properties on Wall Street between Old Mill and Downtown are on the tour. These townhomes are three levels, with studio apartments on the bottom level. All the homes on the tour are located in Bend, Redmond and Sisters, with 10 homes in Tetherow, one in Brasada, two in Pronghorn and one in Ranch of the Canyons in Terrebonne.

Tour of Homes is free. For more information, contact COBA at 541-389-1058 or visit the website at [connectiondepot.com](http://connectiondepot.com).