

Historic Belmont Firehouse

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The Historic Belmont Firehouse Renovation Project is a cooperative effort between Portland Fire & Rescue and the Jeff Morris Fire & Life Safety Foundation.

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**For Information,  
contact:  
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503-823-3615**



## The History Behind Old Station 9

The Belmont Firehouse first occupied its current site at 35<sup>th</sup> and Belmont in 1898. Prior to that date, Hose 5, as it was known, was located a few blocks away at 34<sup>th</sup> and Yamhill beginning in 1896. In 1904, Hose 5 was disbanded and became Hose 9. In February of 1912, the old wooden structure that was the station was razed to make way for the fire station that stands today. It was completed in July of 1912 and occupied as Hose 9 until 1921 when it became known as Engine 9.

In 1928, Truck 6 made the Belmont Firehouse a double company. In 1963, ten years after Station 19 landed in it's current site at 7301 E Burnside, Truck 6 was transferred to 19's until 1984 when it was replaced by the short lived Squad 19.

The Belmont Firehouse is a true treasure that spans the better part of Portland Fire & Rescue's 121 year history. The Fire Learning Center/Museum project, a cooperative effort between the Jeff Morris Fire and Life Safety Foundation



The Historic Belmont Firehouse at the corner of SE 35th Avenue and Belmont Street

and the Fire Bureau, will preserve this and other notable artifacts as well as help display them for the public. For more information, contact the Don Porth at the Public Education Office at 823-3615.

## Applebee's Helps Promote Learning Center

Applebee's Restaurant, in the Lloyd District, has recently remodeled the décor of their restaurant. Taking different themes (sports, fire, police, etc.) and showcasing each one with photos and other small items, they bring life to things relevant to our immediate community. While they have always displayed historic photos of our fire service history, they expanded on the theme with some firefighting tools and addi-

tional pictures. Along with some long-held photos, they now have a photo of Station 2, Station 3, and Station 4 from the early 1900s as well as a modern day photo of the newly remodeled Station 13. Central to these other photos is a description of the developing Fire Learning Center and Museum accompanied by a series of pictures of the station from 1914, 1962, 2003, and an architectural rendition of the changes coming in 2004.

After visiting the Belmont Firehouse, their designers saw fit to include information about the Belmont Firehouse for Applebee's customers to see as they enter the restaurant. This is valuable advertising that will certainly help establish the Historic Belmont Firehouse as a must-see location in our community. Stop by and see the excellent way in which Applebee's Lloyd Center has chosen to share our heritage.

## Volunteers Wanted-Museum Technical Committee

The Bureau is looking for interested persons who want to join the Museum Technical Committee.

This is a group of volunteers who would like to help catalogue and capture the stories behind our

historic photos and artifacts.

A museum specialist, to be hired soon, will assist in developing an inventory for the many historic items we have

stored away, waiting to tell the history of our profession.

If you're interested in helping out, contact Elaine O'Keefe at 823-3807 or Don Porth at 823-3615.



CIRCA  
1914

## Fire Learning Center—Serving the Public Safety Needs

The Fire and Life Safety Learning Center and Fire Museum are intending to be cooperative elements of a visitation experience. The term "living museum" is sometimes used to describe an experience that immerses you into the story the facility has to share, in this case, the history of the fire service in Portland, Oregon. Learning points will be woven throughout the facility. Historic photos and artifacts will reside among the high-tech and interactive learning center exhibits to bring the Belmont Firehouse to life.

The project will invite two different intended audiences. The first would be those who present a high risk from fire, fire injury, and fire death in our community, the young and the elderly. The other audience would be the passerby or community member. The appealing visual nature of the exhibits and the natural draw of a fire station will combine to create an interesting visitation for tourists, history buffs, and those with an interest in the fire service.

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