



THE NATIONAL FIRE HOUSE AND MUSEUM OF PHILADELPHIA
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Summer 2024 Newsletter



18th Annual Golf Outing: On Wednesday May 22, 2024, Fireman's Hall Museum returned to Westover Country Club in Norristown for the 18th Annual Golf Outing. Golfers enjoyed a gorgeous spring day on the links followed by a lovely buffet dinner with an array of raffle and door prizes. Congratulations to the winning foursome from Reliable Automatic Sprinkler Company and to all of our winners!



We want to thank all of our tee and greens sponsors and our various donors, and in particular NFSA and Choice Marketing for their key support of this event. With all of your support, Fireman's Hall Museum hosted another successful fundraiser in support of our ongoing programs and new initiatives. We look forward to seeing our golfers again next year and at our other upcoming events we have planned in support of the museum!

2024 EMS Provider of the Year: Fire Service Paramedic (FSP) Sofia Oakes has been named the 2024 EMS Provider of the Year, to be presented in October at Fireman's Hall Museum alongside the Firefighter of the Year. FSP Oakes is assigned to Engine 11, on Medic 21/B platoon. On November 3, 2023, while on duty at Medic 21 FSP, Oakes responded to a call for a stuck elevator with Rescue 1. Upon arrival, she evaluated the severity of the incident and determined the patient in the elevator needed immediate medical attention.

Oakes is one of a few Paramedics trained in the department by Special Operations Company (SOC) for Technical Rescue. FSP Oakes quickly jumped into action. She was harnessed and lowered approximately 40 floors in a blind elevator shaft. Upon arriving at the elevator, she started treating the critically ill patient. Recognizing the severity of the situation FSP Oakes initiated an exceptional level of advanced life support care. Members of Rescue 1 continued their efforts to extricate the patient.



Funding for Fireman's Hall is supported by a general operating support grant from the Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission, a state agency funded by the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania. We are grateful to them for their ongoing support.

Fireman's Hall Museum™

International Firefighters Day: For International Firefighters Day on May 4, Fireman's Hall Museum assembled an exhibit of international helmets acquired over the years. These helmets are part of the Gimbel Collection, donated by Ben Gimbel, Jr. While the exact timing is unclear, we believe the museum acquired them in September of 1967.



With this exhibit, visitors can get a sense of various other ways that firefighting is organized around the world, beyond the municipal and volunteer companies we see here in the United States – from federal services to even compulsory military units!

Opportunities for Boy Scouts: Museum Curator Brian Anderson and volunteer Will Grow recently participated in a Scouting America event to highlight opportunities available for scouts at Fireman's Hall Museum. Scouts can learn about fire safety and fulfill scouting requirements and work on merit badges with a visit to our museum. Scout leaders are invited to contact the museum to schedule an outing.



First Fridays: Out late in Old City? Fireman's Hall Museum continues to be open until 9:00pm on the first Friday of every month! As the weather warms up, look out for the open bay doors on 2nd Street!

New Online Store NOW LIVE: Staff and volunteers have been hard at work updating the point of sales system in the museum gift shop and creating a brand-new Online Store. Check out FiremansHallStore.com or the Gift Shop link on the museum web page to see what's available!



Women's History Month: On the museum's Youtube channel, watch a historical [slideshow](#) honoring the brave women of the Philadelphia Fire Department, put together by Firefighters Chris Kelly and Curator Brian Anderson!



Wawa Welcome America Festival: Fireman's Hall Museum is always free, but Free Museum Day on Friday June 28 was a unique day of family fun – thanks to a visit from Firefighter Ben and special guests from Engine 8 along with their engine!



Social Media: Keep an eye on the Fireman's Hall [website](#) and follow the museum at [@firemanshall](#) on [Instagram](#) and [X \(formerly Twitter\)](#) for all the latest news, and subscribe to our [Youtube](#) channel for the Curator's Corner and other updated offerings! Join the museum's [Facebook](#) group to become part of the conversation on ongoing research and to view photos and stories from our archives!

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