

QUARTERLY REPORT TO COUNCIL



Meeting Date: September 3, 2025
Prepared by: Suzanne Bishop, Library Director
Department: Library
Division: N/A
Reporting Period:
CC: City Administrator John Walsh

Due to the lack of a quorum, the August 27 Joint City Council & Library Board meeting was not held. The presentation that Library Director Suzanne Bishop was going to give, is included in this packet for your review and information. No formal presentation will be given.

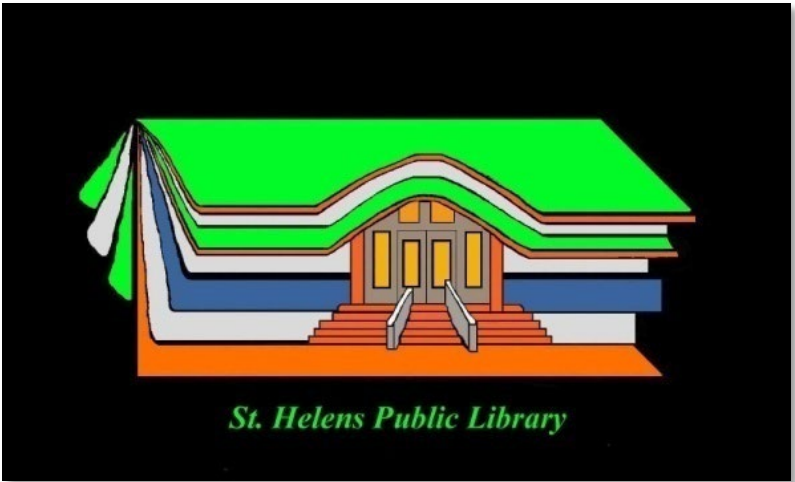
Attachments (If Applicable)

(Attach any supporting documents, reports, or visuals necessary for council review.)

- Library PowerPoint Presentation

St. Helens Public Library

Joint City Council/
Library Board Meeting
August 27, 2025





Updating 2023 - 2028 STRATEGIC PLAN

Goal 1 Develop the Library as the community's "living room."

Goal 2 Engage the community in lifelong learning.

Goal 3 Enhance access to library services.





BUILDING USE

- ▶ Total building visits + 25% (June 2025 over June 2024)
- ▶ *Building hours*
 - ▶ Monday - Thursday, 9:30 am to 7:00 pm
 - ▶ Friday, 9:30 am to 5:00 pm
 - ▶ Saturday, 9:30 am to 2:00 pm
- ▶ *Library hours*
 - ▶ Monday - Thursday, 10:00 am to 7:00 pm
 - ▶ Friday, 10:00 am to 5:00 pm
 - ▶ Saturday, 10:00 am to 2:00 pm
- ▶ Wi-Fi 5:00 am to 12:00 am
- ▶ Auditorium and Armstrong Room
 - ▶ Library-sponsored programs and events
 - ▶ Nonprofit organizations, governmental agencies, community events, and private gatherings

LIBRARY USE

June 2025
over June
2024

+ 40% library-only visits

+ 40% patrons/hour

+ 17% new borrowers

LIBRARY STAFFING
PATRON USE
REFERENCE

▶ Paid staff per capita*	0.40
▶ Registered patrons	2,923
▶ Percent of population registered	20%
▶ Reference questions answered	684
▶ Number of open hours	2,351.5

* Based on St. Helens population: 14,371



LIBRARY RESOURCES

- ▶ Spanish translation of library materials
- ▶ 68,826 Items borrowed in FY 2025
- ▶ 42,000+ items owned
- ▶ 200+ Library of Things
 - ▶ Mobile hotspots, STEAM and robotics, hand tools, Air Fryer, robotics, musical instruments, bicycle repair kit, and much more
- ▶ New online resources
 - ▶ Ground News, ArtistWorks
- ▶ Retiring online resource
 - ▶ A to Z Recipes
- ▶ Seven public computers
 - ▶ Increase in use for job searches and applications, Federal forms, filing court documents, homework, entertainment



FEDERAL AND STATE FUNDING

- ▶ Institute for Museum and Library Services (IMLS) funding for the current fiscal year is ~\$22 million
- ▶ President's bill calls for ~\$6 million in Federal FY 2026
- ▶ IMLS funds about two thirds of State Library Funding of Oregon
- ▶ These funds come to public libraries through Library Services and Technology Act (LSTA) program
- ▶ State of Oregon General Fund covers the final one third.
- ▶ Effect of IMLS draw down
 - ▶ Two thirds of SLO staff laid off
 - ▶ Drastic reduction or elimination of most services and products

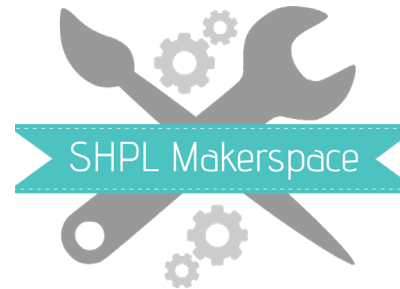


BIENNIAL COLUMBIA COUNTY GENEALOGY CONFERENCE

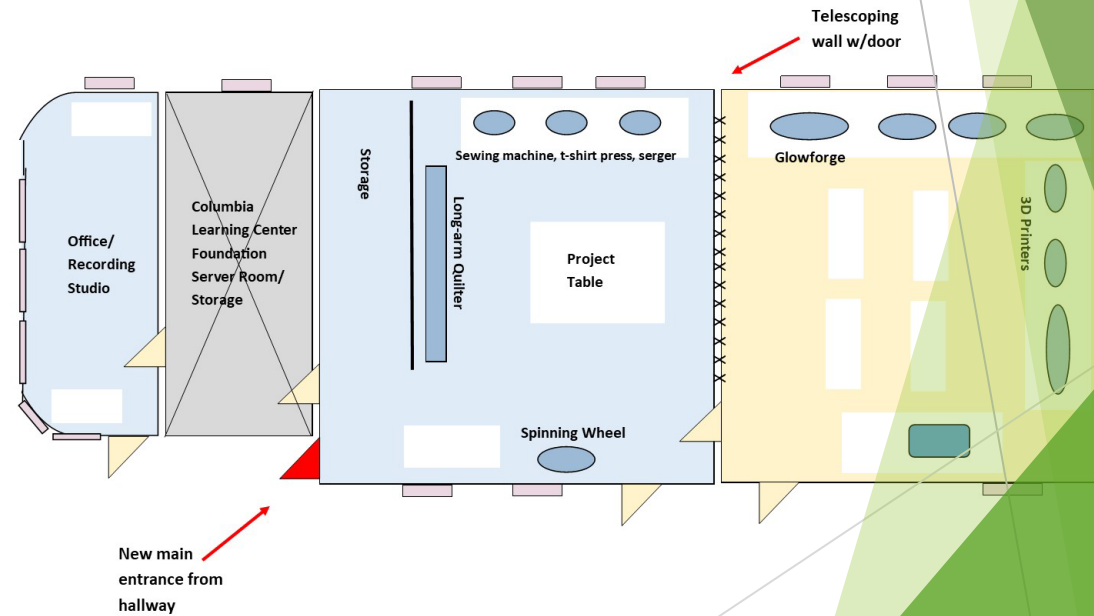
- ▶ September 20, 2025
- ▶ Two tracks
- ▶ Nationally-recognized speakers
- ▶ Introduction by Mayor Massey (Tent.)
- ▶ Keynote by Councilor Sundeen
- ▶ Expecting ~80 participants
- ▶ Hybrid

► Expansion

- Building volunteer cadre
- Fundraising for flooring, furnishings and equipment
 - Elks
 - Private donors
 - Friends of the St. Helens Library
 - In-kind gifts
 - Columbia Learning Center board support
- Popular new uses
 - Youth programs
 - Equipment, i.e. long-arm quilter
- Local History Room
 - Naming research



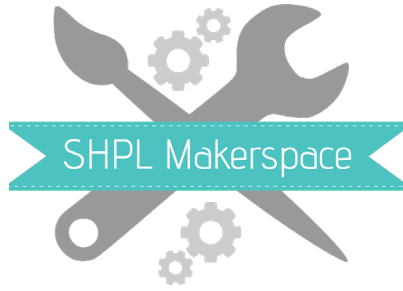
Makerspace Expansion
... dimensions and



Infrastructure Needed (external funding)

- Large project table/ADA
- Worktables (4)
- Enlarge sink
- Shelving units for storage (8)
- Improve lighting in new space
- New tile floor

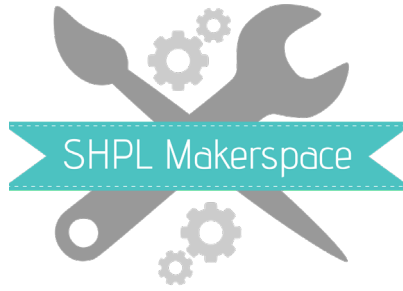
11/20/2024



- ▶ 272 users (January - April 2025)
 - ▶ 200 adults
 - ▶ 63 - ages 5 to 13
 - ▶ 9 - ages 14 - 17
- ▶ Volunteers
 - ▶ Present programs
 - ▶ Repair and prepare equipment
 - ▶ Assist users
- ▶ Outreach

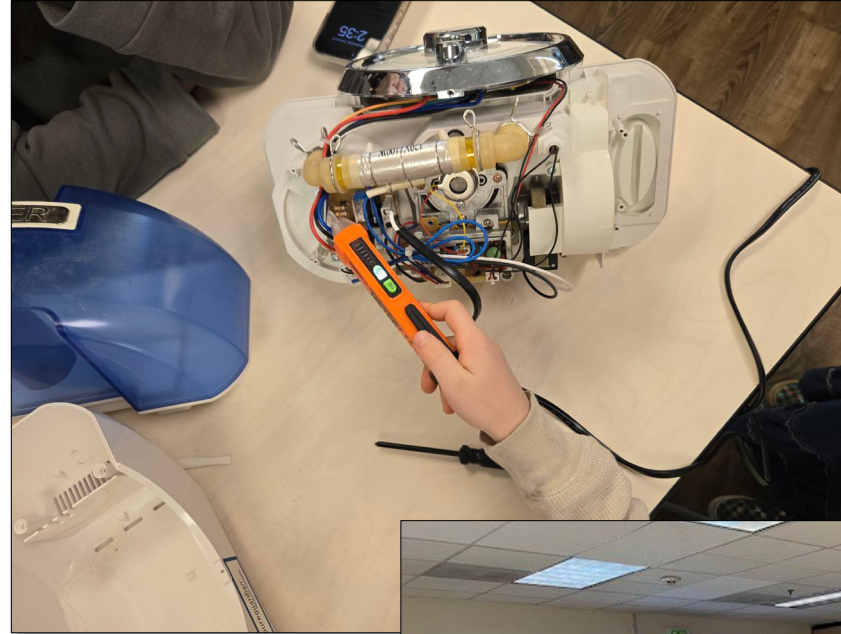


Item 1.



► Programming

- Biweekly Maker three-hour open hours
- Biweekly three-hour blocks for half-hour appointments
- Monthly Maker Kids STEAM Wednesday (ages 6 to 10)
- Monthly Junior Makers STEAM Wednesday (ages 10 - 14)
- Monthly Teen Makers STEAM (ages 13 - 17)
- Special Programs



SEED EXCHANGE

- ▶ Partnership with committee of OSU Master Gardeners
- ▶ Free seeds to share and take
- ▶ Programs - seed saving
- ▶ In the future
 - ▶ Specialized gardens
 - ▶ Programs



PUZZLE EXCHANGE



YOUTH SERVICES

- ▶ Regular programming
 - ▶ Early literacy for ages birth to 5
 - ▶ Weekly storytimes
 - ▶ LEGO Free Play
 - ▶ Makerspace
- ▶ Special programs and events
- ▶ Summer Library Challenge
- ▶ Outreach
 - ▶ Schools and Rec programs
 - ▶ Multilingual back-to-school



Item 1.



ADULT PROGRAMS

- ▶ Adults and Crafts monthly
- ▶ Book Club monthly
- ▶ Genial Genealogists bimonthly
- ▶ Special programs



TEEN ADVISORY BOARD

- ▶ Teen summer intern
- ▶ Program training
- ▶ Community outreach
- ▶ Library project
- ▶ Special programs

RETO DE LECTURA
DE VERANO 2025
EVENTOS PARA NIÑOS



EVENTOS DE VERANO

¡Todos los eventos son GRATUITOS y no requieren tarjeta de la Biblioteca Pública de St. Helens!

KICK-OFF EVENT: PUPPET DANCE PARTY (EVENTO DE INAUGURACIÓN: FIESTA DE BAILE CON TÍTERES)
Miércoles, 18 de junio | 11:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. en el patio

BIG MESSY ART (CREACIÓN DE ARTE SIN REGLAS)
Miércoles, 25 de junio | 11:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. en el porche

STUFFED ANIMAL SLEEPOVER (PIJAMADA DE PELUCHES)
Miércoles, 2 de julio | 6:00 – 6:30 p.m. en el auditorio

BORDER COLLIE INTERNATIONAL CANINE PERFORMING TEAM (PRESENTACIÓN DE GRUPO INTERNACIONAL CANINO BORDER COLLIE)
Miércoles, 2 de julio | 6:00 – 6:30 p.m. en el auditorio

OMSI PRESENTS ELECTRIFYING SCIENCE (OMSI PRESENTA CENCÍA ELECTRIZANTE)
Martes, 22 de julio | 11:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. en el auditorio

NATURE SCAVENGER HUNT (BÚSQUEDA EN LA NATURALEZA)
Miércoles, 30 de julio | 10:30 a.m. – 11:30 a.m. en el patio

WRAP-UP PARTY: GIANT LAWN GAMES (FIESTA DE FIN DE VERANO: JUEGOS GIGANTES EN EL PATIO)
Sábado, 9 de agosto | 11:00 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. en el patio

PROGRAMACIÓN SEMANAL

FAMILY STORYTIME (MEDIA HORA DE CUENTOS PARA FAMILIA)
Cada jueves (no hay programa el día 17 de julio) | 11:00 a.m. – 11:45 a.m. en el auditorio
Jueves, 10 de julio | Visita especial del departamento de policía de St. Helens y su patrulla

MAKER MONDAYS (HORAS LIBRES EN EL ESPACIO DE CREACIÓN)
Cada lunes | 11:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.

HALF-HOUR MAKER APPOINTMENTS ** (CITAS DE MEDIA HORA EN EL ESPACIO DE CREACIÓN)**
Cada jueves | 3:00 p.m. – 6:30 p.m.

(HORAS LIBRES EN EL ESPACIO DE CREACIÓN)
Cada viernes | (no hay programa el día 4 de julio) | 1:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.

**** Pre-registración requerida**



SUMMER LIBRARY CHALLENGE (JUNE 14 TO AUGUST 9)

► Minutes logged

► Youth	74,407
► Teens	33,680
► Adults	148,272

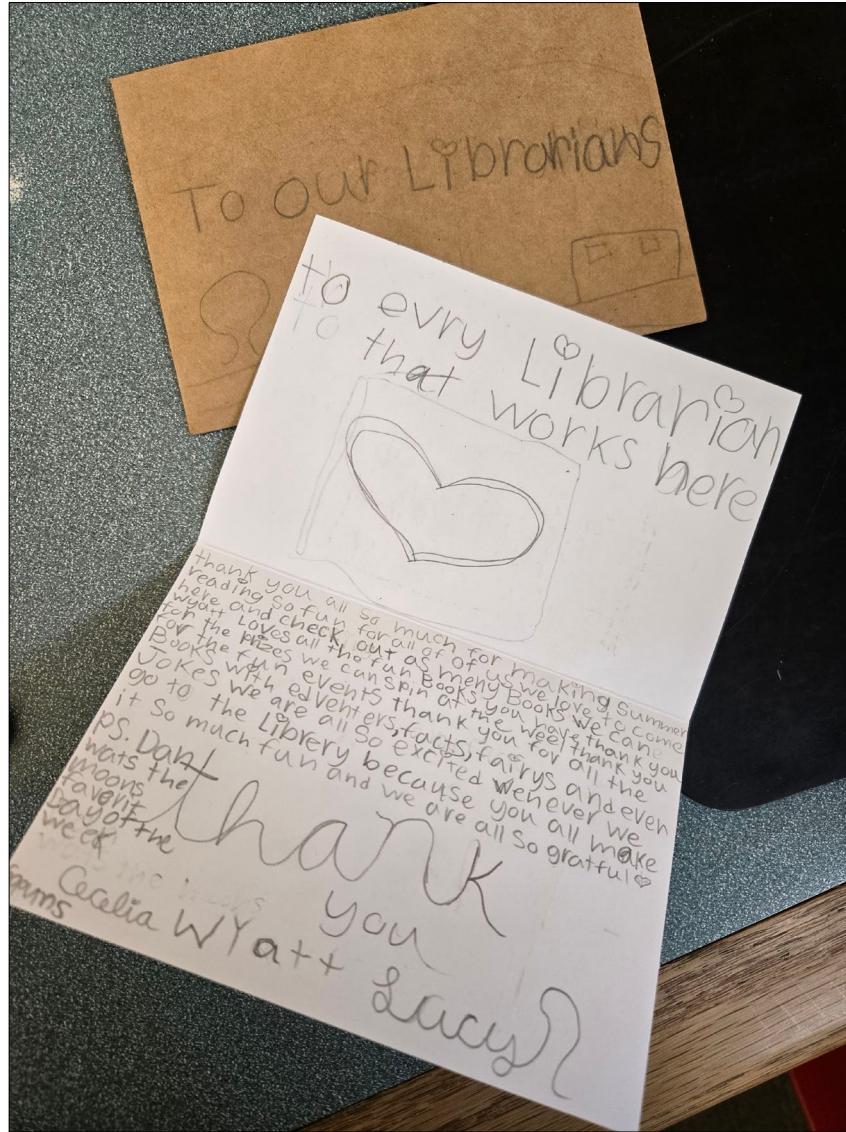
► Registered readers

► Youth	274
► Teens	63
► Adults	156



SUMMER LIBRARY CHALLENGE

- ▶ Reading and activities
- ▶ 16 programs
 - ▶ Escape rooms
 - ▶ Stuffy sleepover
 - ▶ Giant lawn games
 - ▶ Book Club
 - ▶ Border Collie demonstration
 - ▶ ... and more



LIBRARY STAFF

- ▶ Library Director (1.0 FTE)
- ▶ Patron Services Librarian (1.0 FTE)
- ▶ Youth and Makerspace Librarian (1.0 FTE)
- ▶ Library Technician - cataloging (1.0 FTE)
- ▶ 4 Library Assistants (2.0 FTE)

SERVICES

- ▶ Cooling Center
- ▶ Reader's advisory
- ▶ In-depth research
- ▶ Homework help
- ▶ Employment and business
- ▶ Local history
- ▶ Active learning
- ▶ Community outreach
- ▶ Small Business Resources Corner

ST. HELENS COOLING CENTER INFORMATION

ST. HELENS PUBLIC LIBRARY (COLUMBIA CENTER)
375 S. 18th Street., St. Helens, OR

Friday, July 5 10 a.m. to 8 p.m.	Saturday, July 6 10 a.m. to 8 p.m.	Sunday, July 7 2 p.m. to 8 p.m.
Monday, July 8 10 a.m. to 8 p.m.	Tuesday, July 9 10 a.m. to 8 p.m.	

The St. Helens Public Library is located inside the **Columbia Center**. Food and drinks are allowed in the Columbia Center lobby. Limited bottled water will be available. Restrooms and a drinking fountain are available. Only service animals are allowed inside the building. Other pets will be allowed on a leash or in a carrier on the covered porch as long as they are attended by a person (no livestock, please). For questions about this location, call the Library at 503-397-4544.

OTHER LOCATIONS TO STAY COOL:

St. Helens Senior Center 375 S. 15th Street 503-397-3377	St. Helens Alano Club 215 N 6th Street 503-397-9530	Oregon Trail Lanes 735 S. Columbia River Highway 503-397-1011
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St. Helens Senior Center
Fri., July 5: 8 a.m. to 2 p.m.
Mon., July 8: 8 a.m. to 2 p.m.
Tues., July 9: 8 a.m. to 2 p.m.

St. Helens Alano Club
Fri., July 5: 10 a.m. to 9 p.m.
Sat., July 6: 10 a.m. to 9 p.m.
Sun., July 7: 10 a.m. to 9 p.m.
Mon., July 8: 10 a.m. to 9 p.m.
Tues., July 9: 10 a.m. to 9 p.m.

Oregon Trail Lanes
Fri., July 5: 9 a.m. to 11 p.m.
Sat., July 6: 9 a.m. to 11 p.m.
Sun., July 7: 9 a.m. to 8 p.m.
Mon., July 8: 9 a.m. to 10 p.m.
Tues., July 9: 9 a.m. to 10 p.m.

- Open to all ages
- Pets on leash or in a carrier allowed inside (no livestock)
- Food and drinks allowed
- Water and restrooms available

- Open to all ages
- No pets inside, pets under outside covered shelter allowed
- Water and restrooms available

- Open to all ages
- Water and restrooms available
- No pets allowed inside; pets outside under covered breezeway allowed

For the latest information, visit www.sthelensoregon.gov



LIBRARY BOARD



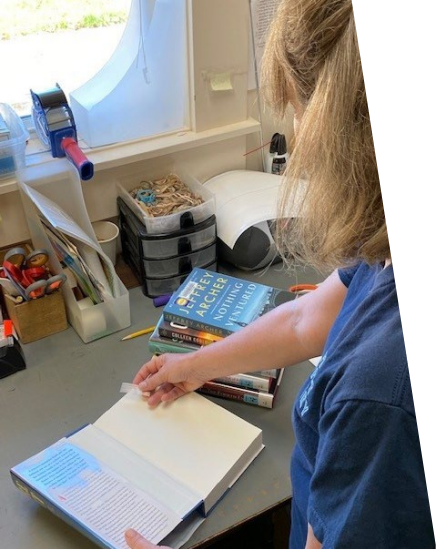
- ▶ Fatima Salas, President
- ▶ Aaron Martin, Vice President

- ▶ **Members**

- ▶ Robert Dunn
- ▶ Jay Echternach
- ▶ Ellen Jacobson
- ▶ Jana Mann
- ▶ Lynne Pettit
- ▶ Erin Wheeldon
- ▶ [vacant]

VOLUNTEERS IN FY 2025

- ▶ 39 volunteers
- ▶ Logged 1,488 hours
- ▶ Value of volunteer time \$32.27/hour -- \$48,017.76
- ▶ Non-specialized tasks
 - ▶ Makerspace support
 - ▶ shelving
 - ▶ checks book order on shelves
 - ▶ book repair
 - ▶ prepares items for use
 - ▶ and more



FRIENDS OF ST. HELENS PUBLIC LIBRARY

- ▶ Purchased new Glowforge for Makerspace
- ▶ Funded
 - ▶ Summer Library Challenge programs
 - ▶ Book Club books
 - ▶ Genealogy Conference
- ▶ Semiannual book sales
- ▶ Bookshelves in lobby sales
- ▶ Volunteer support for special programs
- ▶ Little Libraries
- ▶ Donates books to WIC, Broadleaf Arbor, others

Officers

- ▶ Nancy Tarnai, President
- ▶ Lynne Pettit, Treasurer
- ▶ Spencer Jones, Secretary



COMMUNITY PARTNERS

Recreation Programs	Youth ERA	GRO Greater St. Helens	Small Business Development Center	Columbia County Economic Team	Columbia County Mental Health
Oregon State University Cooperative Extension Service	Columbia Health Services	Amani Center	Columbia County Public Health Department	Columbia County Emergency Management	Arts Guild
Writers Guild	St. Helens Public Library Ukelele Orchestra	St. Helens Police Department	Columbia Learning Center Board	Community Action Team	Friends of St. Helens Public Library
C.E.R.T.	St. Helens School District	State Library of Oregon	St. Helens Elks Lodge #1999	Oregon Library Association	Others

LOOKING AHEAD

- ▶ National Library Card Sign-up Month
- ▶ Genealogy Conference
- ▶ 250th anniversary celebration
- ▶ Columbia County Reads
- ▶ Fundraising
 - ▶ Local history resources
 - ▶ 2026 summer programs
- ▶ Building infrastructure
- ▶ New Library of Things items

