



JOINT LIBRARY BOARD & CITY COUNCIL MEETING

Wednesday, August 27, 2025 at 7:00 PM
HYBRID: Council Chambers & Zoom (details below)

AGENDA

CALL SPECIAL SESSION TO ORDER

DISCUSSION TOPICS

REPORT TO CITY COUNCIL

- [1.](#) Library Director Report

OTHER BUSINESS

- [2.](#) Employee Length of Service Recognition – Dan Dieter 10 Years

ADJOURNMENT

VIRTUAL MEETING DETAILS

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82595643245?pwd=FDOLgHiZJjt8tFECDK1zCSaLaUyu0.1>

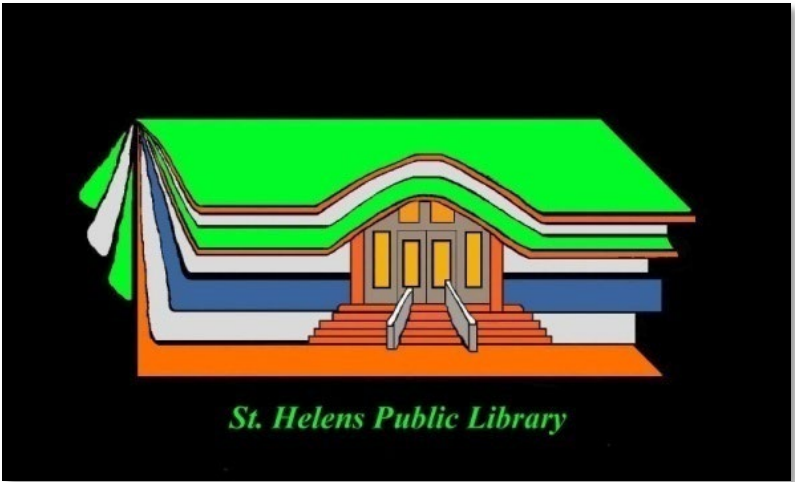
Meeting ID: 825 9564 3245 Passcode: 050957

The meeting location is accessible to persons with disabilities. Requests for an interpreter for the hearing impaired, for a digital device to access a virtual meeting, or for other accommodations for persons with disabilities should be made at least 48 hours before the meeting by contacting the St. Helens Public Library at 503-397-4544.

Be a part of the vision and get involved...volunteer for a City Board or Commission! For more information or for an application, go to www.sthelensoregon.gov or call 503-366-8217.

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



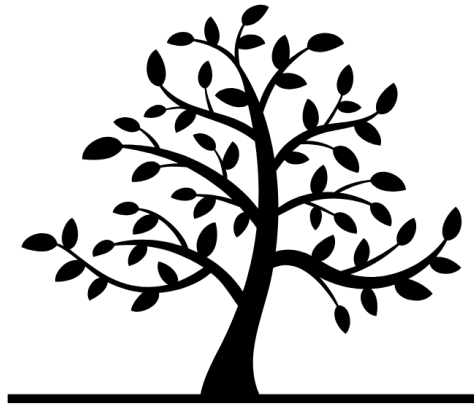
LIBRARY RESOURCES

- ▶ 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



**Many Lands
Many People**

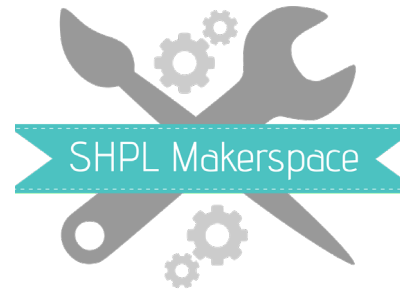


BIENNIAL COLUMBIA COUNTY GENEALOGY CONFERENCE

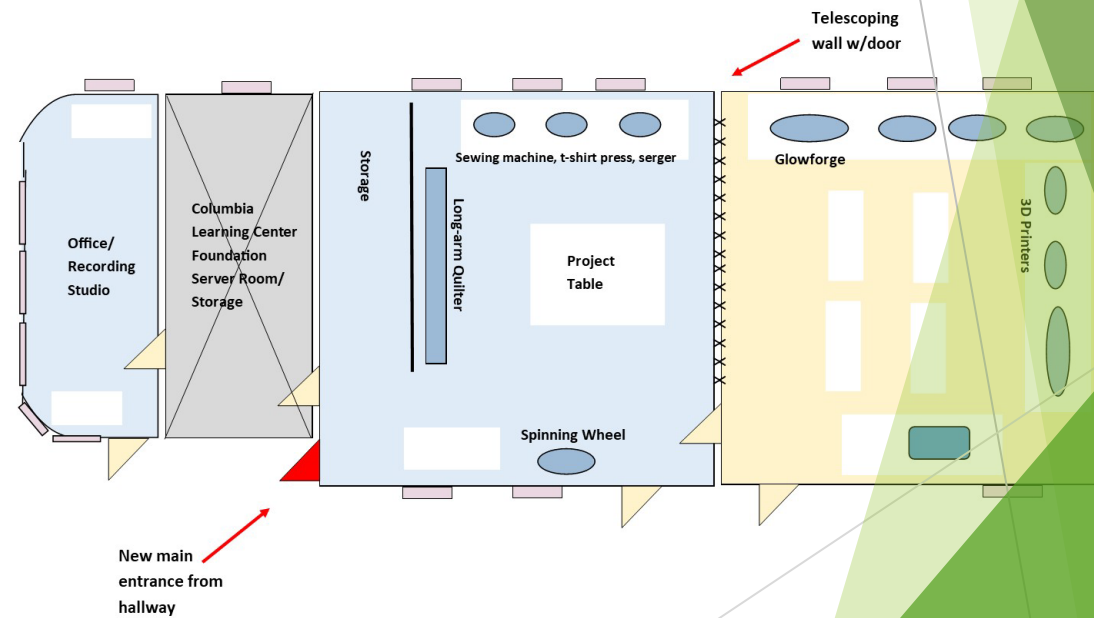
- ▶ September 20, 2025
- ▶ Two tracks
- ▶ Nationally-recognized speakers
- ▶ Introduction by Mayor Massey (Tent.)
- ▶ Keynote by Councilor Sundeen
- ▶ Expecting ~80 participants
- ▶ Hybrid

► 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

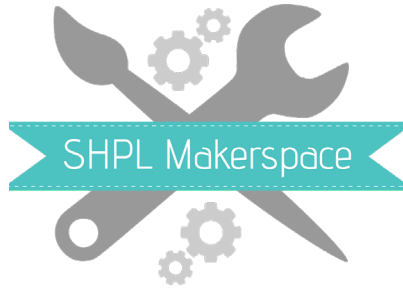


Makerspace Expansion
... dimensions and



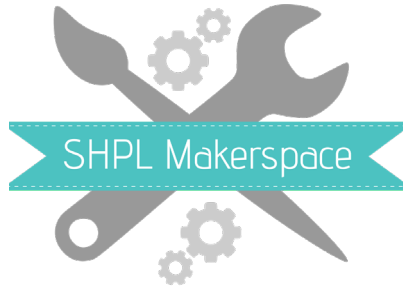
Infrastructure Needed (external funding)

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



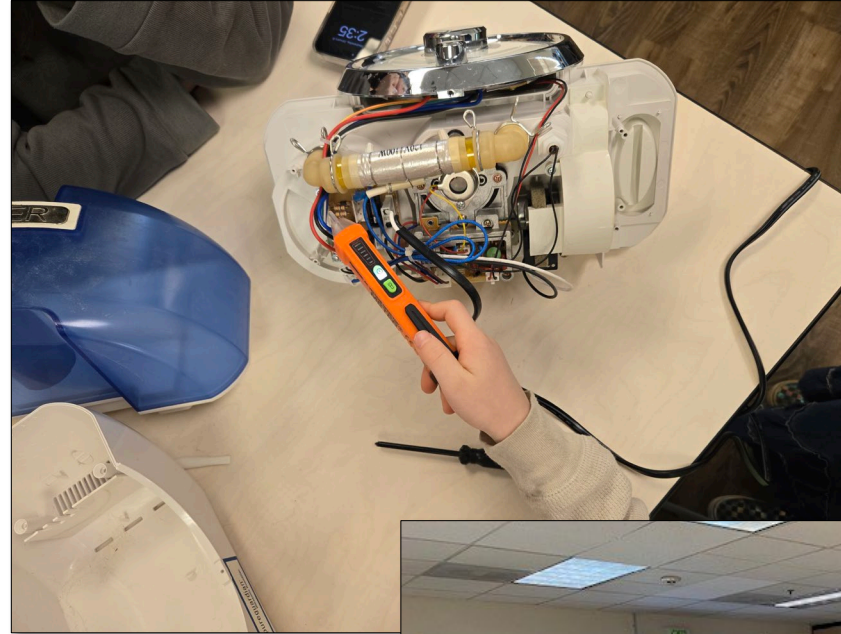
- ▶ 272 users (January - April 2025)
 - ▶ 200 adults
 - ▶ 63 - ages 5 to 13
 - ▶ 9 - ages 14 - 17
- ▶ Volunteers
 - ▶ Present programs
 - ▶ Repair and prepare equipment
 - ▶ Assist users
- ▶ Outreach





► 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





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

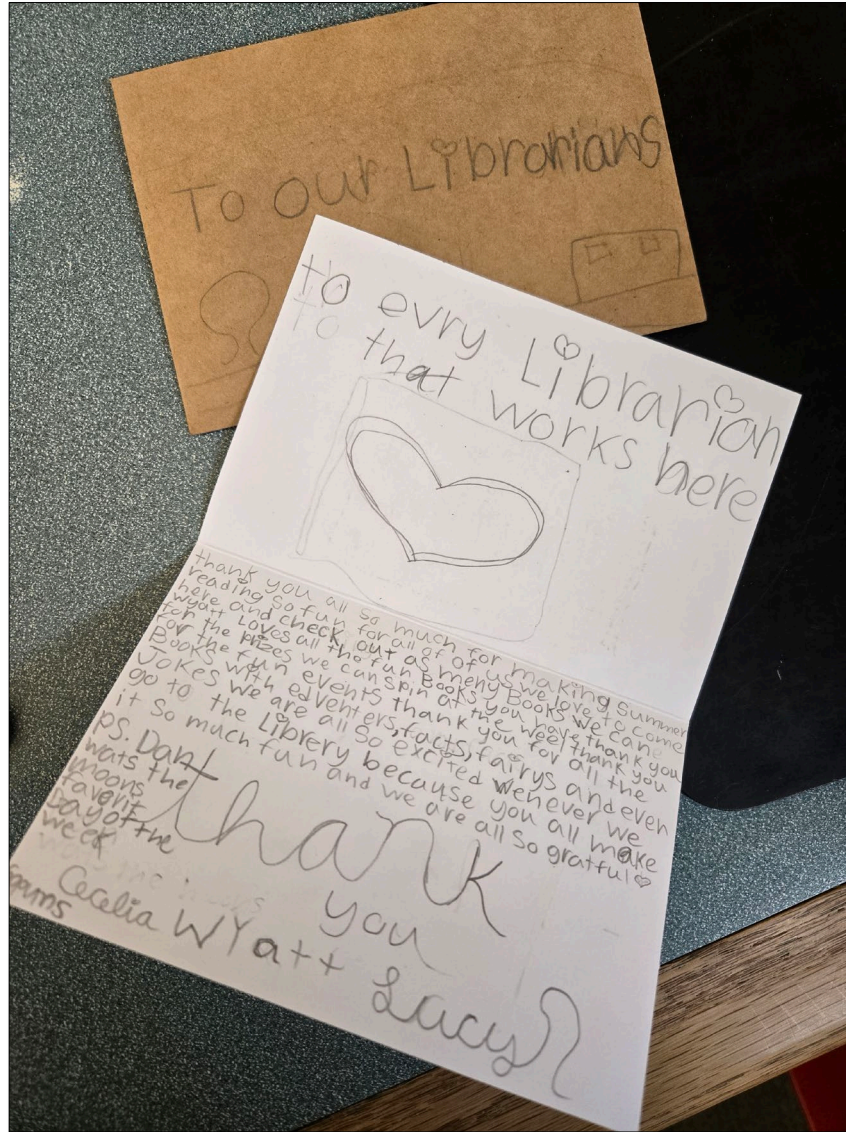
► Registered readers

► 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

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.

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

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.

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

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
- 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



LENGTH OF SERVICE RECOGNITION



To: Mayor and City Council

From: Kathy Payne, Human Resources Coordinator/City Recorder

Date: August 27, 2025

I am happy to announce that we have one employee who has reached a milestone in their employment with the City of St. Helens. The following individual will be recognized at the August 27 Joint Library Board/City Council meeting.

10 Years

Dan Dieter started working with the City on August 6, 2015 as a Library Assistant where he still serves to this day.

Congratulations Dan and **thank you** for your service to our community!