Summer Reading Program Wrapping Up
Kris Wiley for The News-Review

Roseburg Public Library’s Summer Reading Program is drawing to a close.

This is the 12th and final week of this year’s extravaganza. All participants must submit their reading logs and book reviews by 2 p.m. Saturday to be eligible for prizes.

Please be patient as we sort entries and draw for prizes. Winners will be notified by Aug. 30.

This also is the final week of programs for the summer. Youth Services Librarian Aurora Ropp then will take a well-earned hiatus in September. She doesn’t get much of a break, though, because she will finalize programs for the fall, which begin in October.

Programs for adults will pick up in the fall, as well.

That includes a return visit from Oregon author Eileen Garvin, who will Zoom in for a discussion of her second novel, “Crow Talk,” at 6:30 p.m. Thursday, Sept. 19.

I’m trying something new with Garvin’s visit. Patrons are invited to join me at the library, where I will have a meeting room set up to project Garvin on a large screen. I also will have a camera and microphone focused on the audience so Garvin can see and hear us. Attendees will be able to share their thoughts and questions directly with Garvin.

Alternately, patrons can tune in to the discussion on the library’s Facebook page at [www.facebook.com/roseburglibrary](http://www.facebook.com/roseburglibrary); a Facebook account is not required. Questions for the author may be submitted before the event to me at kwiley@roseburgor.gov or 541-492-7051. Viewers who have a Facebook account may post questions during the event by commenting on the live stream.

We chatted with Garvin in late 2021 about her nationally bestselling debut novel, “The Music of Bees,” which followed three grieving strangers brought together at a honeybee farm in rural Oregon.

“Crow Talk” introduces new characters and a new plot, but Garvin’s trademark heartwarming storytelling and Pacific Northwest setting remain.

Two women anchor the book. Frankie O’Neill is a graduate student studying ornithology. Following a fallout at school, she escapes to her family’s cabin near Mount Adams, where she not only tries to salvage her academic career but work through her grief over the recent death of her father.

Anne Ryan is a music professor on forced leave who is grieving the death of her best friend and navigating the changes in her 5-year-old son, Aiden. Once a happy and talkative child, Aiden has been silent except for occasional, heart-wrenching outbursts for the past 18 months.

Anne, Aiden and dad Tim escape Seattle to regroup at the family’s vacation home near Frankie, and friendship blooms when Aiden becomes enchanted with a baby crow Frankie is rehabilitating.

I enjoyed the beautiful setting and Garvin’s descriptions of the natural area around Mount Adams. I also learned so much about crows, from how they care for their young to their rituals to the meanings behind their talk.

“Crow Talk” is available in print at the library and digitally on the library’s two platforms, cloudLibrary and Libby.

Regardless of whether you read the book, please consider joining us Sept. 19. All are welcome.

This Week’s Library Events

Monday, August 19-Saturday, August 24, 9 a.m.-6 p.m. - StoryWalk® at Stewart Park by YMCA

Tuesday, August 20, 10 a.m. – Grab-and-go craft kits while supplies last

Tuesday, August 20, 1-2 p.m. – Children’s program: Ozobot color coding robots

Wednesday, August 21, 10:30 a.m. – Storytime at Stewart Park Pavilion

Thursday, August 22, 10:15 a.m. – Storytime at library

Thursday, August 22, 1-2:30 p.m. – Teen program: Virtual reality

Thursday, August 22, 6:30 p.m. – Silent Book Group

Friday, August 23, 10:30-11:30 a.m. – Children’s program at Stewart Park Pavilion: Paint flowerpots

Saturday, August 24, 2 p.m. – Summer Reading Program ends