

# Library Connections

LAVENIA MCCOY PUBLIC LIBRARY



## Now Circulating: A "Winning" Collection

By Karen Lemke

The movie industry has the Oscars, music has the Grammys, and books have the Newberry. Or the Caldecott. Or the Pulitzer. Actually, literature awards are quite numerous. And, depending on different reading tastes, there are "top prizes" for all types of literature.

The Lavenia McCoy Public Library is celebrating the new year by featuring some of these award-winning titles.

But where do these awards come from? Here are the origins of some of the most famous literary awards:

### Pulitzer Prize

John Steinbeck, Alice Walker, and Rodgers and Hammerstein have all been recipients of this award. Each year, the Pulitzer is awarded in 21 different categories for journalistic, musical, and literary achievements.

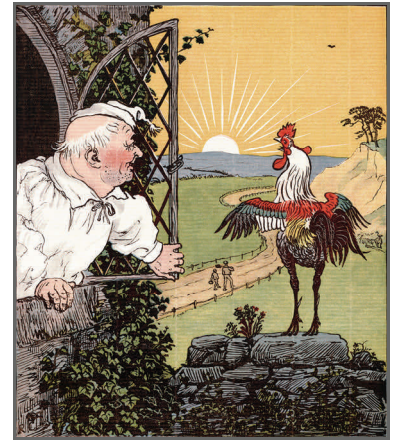
### National Book Award

Nelson Algren's The Man With The Golden Arm was the first title to receive the National Book Award (for fiction) in 1950. Since then, publishers, editors, writers and critics have selected a national winner for fiction, non-fiction, young people's literature and poetry each year. The governing body of the National Book Award tried to expand the number of winners in the 1980's, but the group quickly decided having fewer winners gave more weight to the awards.

### Caldecott Medal

In the mid-1800's, a man named Randolph left his bank job to become an illustrator, something he had enjoyed doing in his spare time for years. Randolph never really cared for the unpleasant pictures in children's books, so he used different techniques to create more lively and engaging images. It was this dedication to illustration that led the American Library Association to create the Caldecott Medal, paying homage to Randolph Caldecott's career.

The library has many award-winning titles available for checkout— stop by the library today for all of our award-winners.



*Caldecott's images were a stark contrast to the illustrations found in children's literature during his youth.*

See a complete list of award-winning titles on pages 3-4.

## Library showcases technology

By Karen Lemke

It was a zoo at the Lavenia McCoy Public Library in early December, as dozens of patrons took a variety of technology gadgets for a test drive.

Technology Petting Zoo organizer, Elizabeth von Tauffkirchen said the event gave people the chance to try out new gadgets before buying them for the holidays. "We had several eReaders, a TomTom GPS unit, mp3 players, and other pieces of technology for people to try. It was nice to let everyone try out the devices, especially our collection of eReaders."

After the event, the library started offering the new devices for checkout. "We've recently added a lot of new devices, and we even have laptops that checkout," says von Tauffkirchen.

The library offers mp3 players, Sony eReaders, Nooks, a Kobo, laptops, a ViewSonic projector, Flash video cameras, and more. But the staff at the library has experience with other devices. According to von Tauffkirchen, staff members have tried out the Apple iPad and the Amazon Kindle. "Our staff is constantly trying to stay current with new technology. We want to help patrons have access to



*These are a few of the items featured at the Technology Petting Zoo. All of these items are available for checkout.*

all the free digital material that we have available." In partnership with Overdrive Media, the library offers titles that can be downloaded anywhere, anytime.

### The library will continue to offer Technology Petting Zoos. On January 13, 2012, the library will offer a "How-To-Zoo."

"We hope everyone that got a new device over the holidays will bring them in and find out how they work with the library's digital media collection," says von Tauffkirchen. The January event will also give patrons a chance to take a look at some of the library's technology gadgets.

At the beginning of 2011, I reported about the results of a community-wide survey, which showed the demand for an increase in our collection, programs and services. Throughout the year, this information has been the center of many conversations, and led to the formation of the library's Facilities Task Force.

The Task Force met throughout the year, and by the end of this summer, the group was ready to hire a well-qualified architect. Dennis Humphries is from the Denver-based Humphries/ Poli architectural firm. Meeting with Dennis has furthered our discussions, and allowed us to really look at all of the options the library has for an expansion.

Early in 2012, the library will hold an open house with Dennis, and possibly present a conceptual plan for a library expansion. Stay tuned for this information, as the meeting will be exciting and informative.

The library has already undergone an expansion, of sorts, with our additional digital content. Through our library website, you can link to thousands of digital titles, including eBooks, audiobooks, and videos. All of these items are free for this community to share (just like our traditional collection) and our "digital shelves" are expanding monthly.

I'm looking forward to another year of exciting changes at the Lavenia McCoy Public Library, as we expand in a number of ways. Throughout this process, we will still be the library "connecting people to possibilities."

Come by the library and explore your own possibilities today!



-Donnalee Baxstrom,  
Library Director

## Volunteer program

"Dedication and participation" were the resounding themes for the 2011 Volunteer Program. We cannot thank you all enough. This library would not be the same without our faithful Tribe of Volunteers.

Over the course of the year, 42 people helped for nearly 700 volunteer hours on various everyday tasks of running this wonderful library. This doesn't include the countless hours that our 7 library board members dedicated to the decision making and management process of the library. Nor does it include the countless hours that the Friends of the Library have dedicated to running their organization that directly supports the library's initiatives and programming. Thank you!

If you are looking to support your library with your time, check the lobby kiosk for the latest volunteer position postings. We update this list each month and will gladly accept your completed application at the Circulation Desk at any time. Volunteering is a great way to strengthen your job skills and resume, learn something new, and contribute to your library. Join us!

--Amron Gravett, Assistant Director and Volunteer Coordinator

## Tea, anyone?

Are you part of a book club? Are you looking for a book club? Did you know your library can be a huge help when it comes to obtaining books?

Join us in January as the Lavenia McCoy Public Library offers the first-ever "Bookmarks Tea."

At this event, we will share a new, exciting way to find the books you want for your book club. We will also help you find a book club that meets your needs.

Learn about other book clubs in the area, or about the NEW library-sponsored book club, called "Bookmarks." We will have delightful treats and, of course, tea, as well as fabulous door prizes. We will also have copies of Bookmarks books for the February book discussion. Advance signup is helpful, but not required.



## 2011 Adult Literature Winners

### National Book Award-Fiction

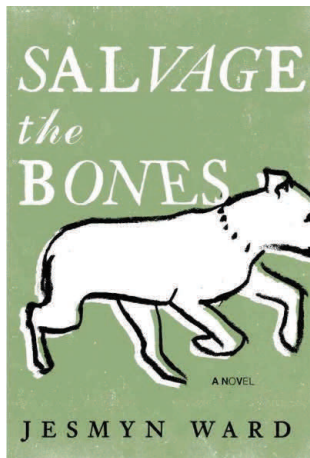
#### Salvage The Bones

by Jesmyn Ward  
(F Ward)

A hurricane is building over the Gulf of Mexico, threatening the coastal town of Bois Sauvage, Mississippi, and Esch's father is growing concerned. A hard drinker, largely absent, he doesn't show concern for much else. Esch and her three brothers are stocking food, but there isn't much to save. Lately, Esch can't keep down what food she gets; she's fourteen and pregnant. Her brother Skeetah is sneaking scraps for his prized pitbull's new litter, dying one by one in the dirt. Meanwhile, brothers Randall and Junior try to stake their claim in a family long on child's play and short on parenting.

As the twelve days that make up the novel's framework yield to their dramatic conclusion, this unforgettable family-motherless children sacrificing for one another as they can, protecting and nurturing where love is scarce-pulls itself up to face another day.

Source: Amazon.com



### National Book Award- Non-Fiction

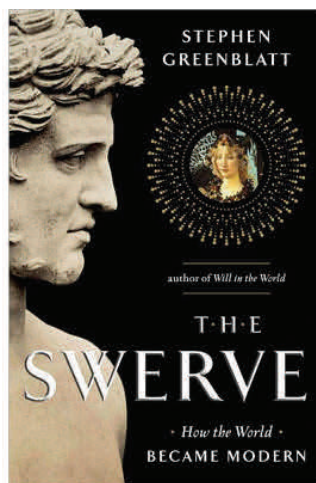
#### The Swerve: How The World Became Modern

by Stephen Greenblatt  
(940.21 Greenblatt)

One of the world's most celebrated scholars, Stephen Greenblatt has crafted both an innovative work of history and a thrilling story of discovery, in which one manuscript, plucked from a thousand years of neglect, changed the course of human thought and made possible the world as we know it.

Nearly six hundred years ago, a short, genial, cannily alert man in his late thirties took a very old manuscript off a library shelf, saw with excitement what he had discovered, and ordered that it be copied. That book was the last surviving manuscript of an ancient Roman philosophical epic, *On the Nature of Things*, by Lucretius—a beautiful poem of the most dangerous ideas: that the universe functioned without the aid of gods, that religious fear was damaging to human life, and that matter was made up of very small particles in eternal motion, colliding and swerving in new directions.

Source: Amazon.com



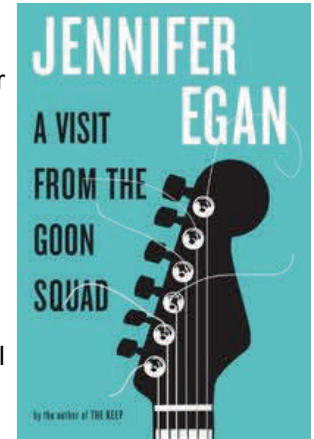
### Pulitzer Prize

#### A Visit From the Goon Squad

by Jennifer Egan  
(F Egan)

Bennie is an aging former punk rocker and record executive. Sasha is the passionate, troubled young woman he employs. Here Jennifer Egan brilliantly reveals their pasts, along with the inner lives of a host of other characters whose paths intersect with theirs. With music pulsing on every page, *A Visit from the Goon Squad* is a startling, exhilarating novel of self-destruction and redemption. Egan's latest novel was also the winner of the 2010 National Book Critics Circle Award.

Source: Amazon.com

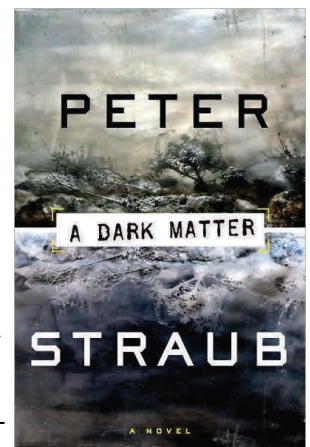


### Bram Stoker Award

#### A Dark Matter by Peter Straub (F Straub)

The charismatic and cunning Spenser Mallon is a campus guru in the 1960s, attracting the devotion and demanding sexual favors of his young acolytes. After he invites his most fervent followers to attend a secret ritual in a local meadow, the only thing that remains is a gruesomely dismembered body—and the shattered souls of all who were present. Years later, one man attempts to understand what happened to his wife and to his friends by writing a book about this horrible night, and it's through this process that they begin to examine the unspeakable events that have bound them in ways they cannot fathom, but that have haunted every one of them through their lives. As each of the old friends tries to come to grips with the darkness of the past, they find themselves face-to-face with the evil triggered so many years earlier. Unfolding through the individual stories of the fated group's members, *A Dark Matter* is an electric, chilling, and unpredictable novel that will satisfy Peter Straub's many ardent fans, and win him legions more.

Source: Amazon.com



## 2011 Teen Literature Winners

### Award for Excellence in Non-Fiction

#### They Called Themselves the K.K.K.

by Susan Bartoletti  
(T 322.4 Bartoletti)

*Boys, let us get up a club.* With those words, six restless young men raided the linens at a friend's mansion, pulled pillowcases over their heads, hopped on horses, and cavorted through the streets of Pulaski, Tennessee.

The six friends named their club the Ku Klux Klan, and, all too quickly, their club grew into the self-proclaimed Invisible Empire with secret dens spread across the South.

This is the story of how a secret terrorist group took root in America's democracy. Filled with chilling and vivid personal accounts unearthed from oral histories, congressional documents, and diaries, it is a book to read and remember. *Source: Amazon.com*

**Printz Award**  
**Ship Breaker**

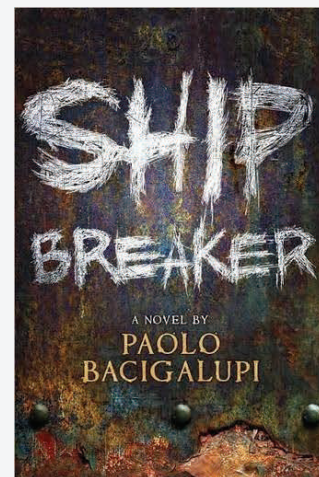


### by Paolo Bacigalupi (T Bacigalupi)

In America's Gulf Coast region, where grounded oil tankers are being broken down for parts, Nailor, a teenage boy, works the light crew, scavenging for copper wiring just to make quota--and hopefully live to see another day. But when, by luck or chance, he discovers an exquisite clipper ship beached during a recent hurricane, Nailor faces the most important decision of his life: Strip the ship for all it's worth or rescue its lone survivor, a beautiful and wealthy girl who could lead him to a better life. . . .

In this powerful novel, award-winning author Paolo Bacigalupi delivers a thrilling, fast-paced adventure set in a vivid and raw, uncertain future.

*Source: Amazon.com*



## 2011 Children's Literature Winners

### Caldecott Medal

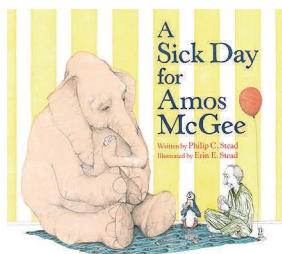
#### A Sick Day for Amos McGee

by Philip C. Stead  
(E Stead)

The Best Sick Day Ever and the animals in the zoo feature in this striking picture book debut.

Friends come in all sorts of shapes and sizes. In Amos McGee's case, all sorts of species, too! Every day he spends a little bit of time with each of his friends at the zoo, running races with the tortoise, keeping the shy penguin company, and even reading bedtime stories to the owl. But when Amos is too sick to make it to the zoo, his animal friends decide it's time they returned the favor.

*Source: Amazon.com*



### Newbery Medal

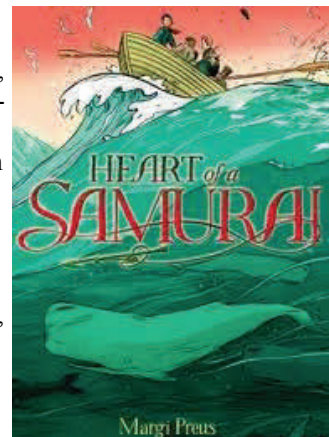
#### Heart of a Samurai

by Margi Preus  
(J Preus)

In 1841, a Japanese fishing vessel sinks. Its crew is forced to swim to a small, unknown island, where they are rescued by a passing American ship. Japan's borders remain closed to all Western nations, so the crew sets off to America, learning English on the way.

Manjiro, a fourteen-year-old boy, is curious and eager to learn everything he can about this new culture. Eventually the captain adopts Manjiro and takes him to his home in New England. The boy lives for some time in New England, and then heads to San Francisco to pan for gold. After many years, he makes it back to Japan, only to be imprisoned as an outsider. With his hard-won knowledge of the West, Manjiro is in a unique position to persuade the shogun to ease open the boundaries around Japan; he may even achieve his unlikely dream of becoming a samurai.

*Source: Amazon.com*



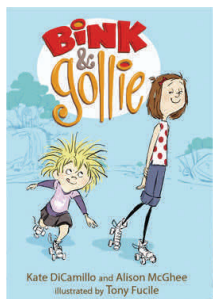
### Geisel Award

#### Bink & Gollie

by Kate DiCamillo  
(J DiCamillo)

In a brilliant collaboration, best-selling authors Kate DiCamillo and Alison McGhee, along with acclaimed illustrator Tony Fucile, introduce an outrageously funny pair of friends.

*Source: Amazon.com*

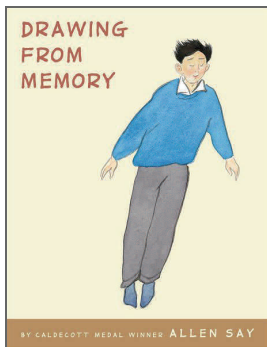


## Amron's Picks

### Drawing from Memory

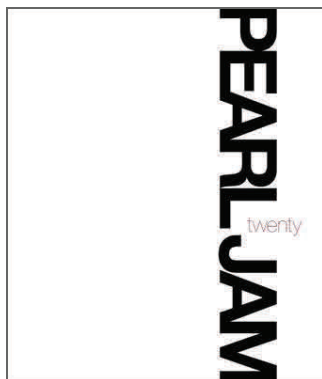
by Allen Say  
(J 741.6 Say)

If you have any interest in drawing, cartooning, or an artist's process, this is a wonderful selection for you. Allen Say is a Caldecott Medalist for *Grandfather's Journey*, and Caldecott Honor and Boston Globe-Horn Book Medalist for *The Boy of the Three-Year Nap*. He apprenticed with Noro Shinpei, the notorious Japanese cartoonist during World War II and has since evolved into a well-known and well-loved master of his craft. This is a young reader's biography that fuses elements of graphic novel, original cartoons, and historical photographs into a narrative memoir of the journey of an artist. "I am striving to give shape to my dreams—the old business of making myths—the fundamental force of art." —Allen Say (Caldecott Medal acceptance speech for *Grandfather's Journey*)



Twenty  
by Pearl Jam.  
(782.42166 Pearl)

If you are at least 20 years of age, then you have heard of the band often named the "Greatest Rock Band of all Time": Pearl Jam. I grew up in Tacoma, Washington and when I was in 8<sup>th</sup> grade I stood outside the Tacoma Dome for 19 hours waiting for tickets to my first ever concert, Pearl Jam. I have long since moved away from the Pacific Northwest, and although my music tastes have changed drastically over the years, every time I come back to a new album of theirs, I am reborn as the PJ fan that I once was. The book is rich with original and personal photos, interviews that chronicle each year of the band's evolution, and heavy with song stories and moments of madness in the band's voyage.

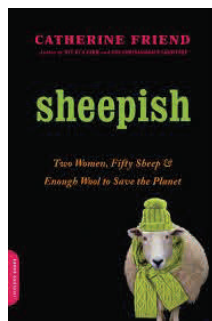


## Cathy's Pick

### Sheepish

by Catherine Friend  
(630.9776 Friend)

This memoir, a sequel to her book "Hit by a Farm" is a heartwarming and hilarious exploration of a midlife crisis in the midst of a large herd of sheep. The sheep remain blissfully oblivious and continue with their daily routine of producing both wool and lambs, while she suffers the indignities of farm tours and "fiber freaks" in an attempt to keep the farm afloat. I had many laugh out loud moments and could relate to her feelings of being stuck in the "middle" and not quite knowing where to go from there, remaining confident that she would find a unique way to make it all work for her.

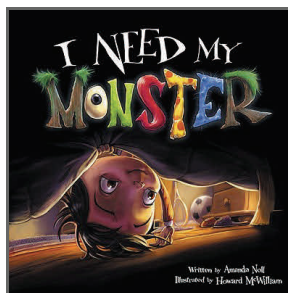


## Elizabeth's Pick

### I Need My Monster

by Amanda Noll  
(E Noll)

One of my favorite books this past year for reading with my five-year-old was I Need My Monster by Amanda Noll and illustrated by Howard McWilliam. The story is about a young boy who has a monster living under his bed. One night, the monster has a night off and each substitute monster just won't do for the boy. He misses his regular monster. The illustrations are remarkable and the story is darling.

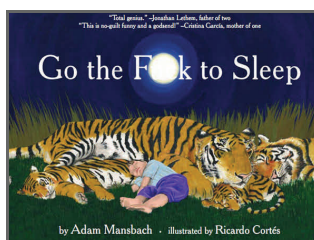


## Melanie's Pick

### Go the F\*\*k To Sleep

by Adam Mansbach  
(649 MAN)

Living with a child in my home who harbors a strong aversion to sleep I found this book both relatable and hilarious. I was impressed by both the beautiful illustrations and the many tasteful ways to rhyme with the f-bomb. I would recommend this book to any sleepy family member.

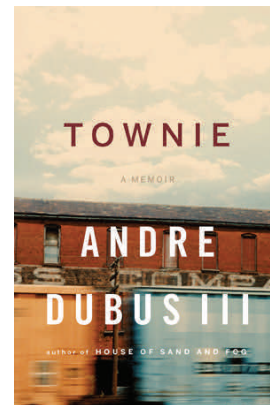


## Jenni's Pick

### Townie

by Andre Dubus III  
(813.54 Dubus)

In this captivating memoir by the author of the bestselling novel *House of Sand and Fog*, we learn how Dubus struggles with life growing up in a tough east coast mill town and overcomes the violence of his past to become an author. We also follow the story of Dubus's relationship with his college professor/author father, who abandoned the family when Dubus was young and left then to struggle with a life of poverty. I highly recommend this memoir, which reads like a novel. Andre Dubus is an outstanding writer.



## Karen's Pick

### Mockingjay

by Suzanne Collins

(T F Collins, also available on Overdrive)

I was a little late jumping on board the Hunger Games train. And after reading the first in the series, I was thankful the other two were already published and ready to go. The third and final entry in this dystopic novel concludes the story of Katnis Everdeen and her two loves, Gale and Peeta. The fast-paced finish to a thrilling, provocative ride. The first installment of the series will hit the big screen at the end of March 2012, so I recommend reading the Hunger Games before then. If you are like me, you will be clambering for Catching Fire and Mockingjay. And, thankfully, they are all in print and ready to go!



*Do you have a favorite book from 2011? Fill out a Patron Pick bookmark and we will add it to our on-going display in the library.*

**ALL ABOUT US**

**OUR BOARD OF TRUSTEES:**

- Valerie Borge
- Cheryl Clay
- Tim Telep
- Hunter Swanson
- Russell Burwell
- Judith London
- Dan Ford

*As we grow into a world class library, the Board would love to hear your input. Contact the Board via the phone book or library comment card.*

**LIBRARY HOURS**

**Mon.- Fri.: 9 AM-7 PM**

**Saturday: 9 AM-5 PM**

**Sunday: 1 PM-5 PM**

**HOLIDAY CLOSINGS**

- Saturday, December 24
- Sunday, December 25
- Saturday, December 31
- Sunday, January 1
- Monday, January 16

**UP-TO-DATE INFO.**

To stay up-to-date with the latest library news, events, and happenings, make sure you get connected with us! Start at the library's website ([www.lmpl.org](http://www.lmpl.org)) to be our Friend, read our Tweets, and connect to our blog. You can also sign up for our weekly email of events! So go to [www.lmpl.org](http://www.lmpl.org) and connect with us today!



**FRIENDS ZONE** *by Judy Gotthelf*

Throughout 2011, the Friends of the Pine River Public Library continued their support of programs, activities and events for Bayfield and the surrounding communities.

We hit the ground running at the beginning of 2011, by playing an instrumental role in the McCoy Country Fair, an event honoring the library's namesake, Lavenia McCoy. Soon after that event, the Friends planned a party for the many volunteers that give up so much of their time to help the library.

In the summer of 2011, the Friends donated a Nook Color eReader for the library's first-ever Adult Summer Reading Program. The event was tremendously popular, with over 150 local adults participating and over 650 books read. At the end of the summer, the Friends supported the popular Babysitter Training program by donating Babysitter Bags for all participants. Each person received a bag full of crayons, paper, toys, books and more for their upcoming babysitting positions.

In October, the Friends helped with the local Oktoberfest, a yearly fundraiser for the Pine River Community Learning Center. We were able to deliver dozens of free books to many local residents. Aside from assisting with programs and events, the

Friends participated in the recruitment and selection of the new Assistant Director (making an outstanding choice) and serving on the library's Development Committee and Library Facilities Task Force. Friends are also active participants at Library Board meetings.

This is just a partial list of some of the many ways that the Friends try to fulfill one of their main purposes of supporting and cooperating with the library in developing library service and facilities for the community.

You can be a part of this dynamic group by becoming a member of the Friends in 2012. Membership forms are available at the circulation desk in the library or on the Friends page of the library website at [www.lmpl.org](http://www.lmpl.org). Join and make a difference.



**GOOD TO KNOW**

**Who moved my non-fiction movie?**

The library is using newer models to organize the collection, which may take a little getting used to. But, in the end, the switch has been beneficial for other libraries, as they look to make the browsing experience a better one.

The biggest change in the library right now is the migration of the non-fiction DVD's into the "regular" non-fiction collection. This means that the DVD about a particular subject will be located near the books of that same topic.

Assistant Director, Amron Gravett, says the move will allow patrons to find the information they need in a variety of formats. "Having non-fiction books and movies together will make our library easier to browse. This move brings together all of the information about a topic together in one place."

So, if you are looking for Disney's Earth, Man versus Wild, or Freakonomics, you will now find those DVDs in with the books. And this isn't the last of the changes in the library, with an expansion project in the planning stages.

Gravett says patrons can always ask for help. "There will be more changes to come, but our staff remains just as willing to help as they've always

been. So if you can't find something, please let us know!"



*Non-fiction DVDs, like Disney's Earth series, can now be found near the books of the same subject.*