

The gift of words

A batch of new books for the career-minded

By Michelle Archer / NWjobs

It's that time of year when our thoughts turn away from pumpkin-pie eating and toward gift giving, followed quickly by goal setting. This new crop of books for the career-minded will help with the last two. All are available in print or as e-books, but remember, downloads are trickier to wrap.

For the ambitious

Why does one employee get promoted and an otherwise equal employee doesn't? It's all about PVI — perception, visibility and influence — says executive coach Joel A. Garfinkle. He writes about how you can improve your personal PVI in "Getting Ahead." (\$25, Wiley)

For turbulent times

Any corporate type worth his or her pinstripes has doubtlessly read (or been asked to read) Jim Collins' "Built to Last" and "Good to Great." In his latest book, "Great By Choice," Collins and co-author Morten T. Hansen dissect companies such as Microsoft and Southwest Airlines to find out why the organizations have thrived despite facing uncertainty and chaos. (\$30, HarperBusiness)

For a long, strange trip

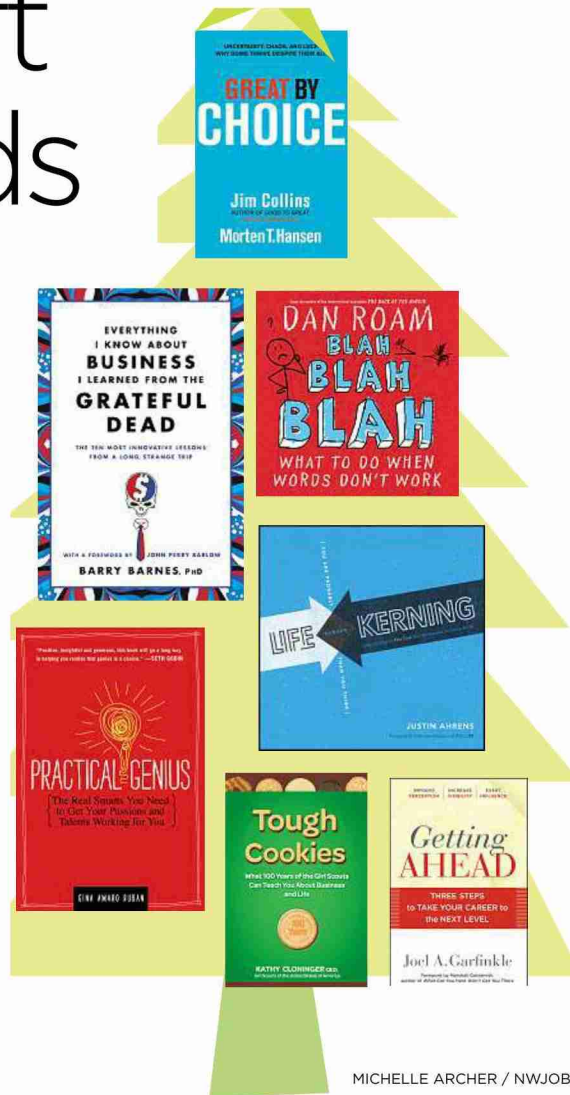
Self-professed lifelong Deadhead and management professor Barry Barnes shares 10 business lessons gleaned from the inadvertent commercial success of the anti-establishment band in "Everything I Know About Business I Learned From the Grateful Dead." Sample insights include being kind

to your customers, living your values and sharing your content. (\$25, Business Plus)

For the visual thinker

Ever find yourself tuning out during meetings with the long-winded? Dan Roam, the author of previous books on how to solve problems with simple drawings, returns

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