

Check It Out! Podcast Transcript
Episode #36 “Happy podcast anniversary!”
Sno-Isle Libraries, Aug. 23, 2019



Ken Harvey: 00:00 Welcome to a special edition of the Check It Out! podcast. In this episode, we're going to celebrate one solid year of having produced episodes that have been worth listening to, and we want to thank all of you who've been listening. I am delighted to have with me at the table two individuals, Jim Hills.

Jim Hills: 00:21 I am here.

Ken Harvey: 00:22 So you know that voice, because he has been here through many of those episodes. But another voice that you have not heard before, and that is Debie Murchie, our executive producer. Hey, Debie.

Debie Murchie: 00:32 Hello, Ken. I am so happy to be here.

Ken Harvey: 00:35 Yeah, I'm glad to have you here, too. And also glad to have all of you listeners who have been so loyal and there right with us as we have grown this podcast from the very beginning. So we're going to be talking about some of the episodes that have gotten our attention and that we've really celebrated, although unfortunately, we're not going to have time to talk about every one of them, because every one of them has been important. But all that and more up next.

Ken Harvey: 01:03 Welcome to season two and episode 36 of Check It Out!, the Sno-Isle Libraries podcast for lifelong learners with inquiring minds.

Speaker 4: 01:21 The views and opinions expressed on this podcast may not necessarily reflect the official position of Sno-Isle Libraries.

Ken Harvey: 01:28 We're back in the studio now, and before we go any further, we just want to say that we would not have gotten where we are with this podcast without the help of a number of individuals who work behind the scenes. Debie is sitting here at the table with us with a microphone so you can hear from her as executive producer, but also sitting at the table, but in the background and she steadfastly refuses to say anything on mic, is our technical producer, Deborah Tahara.

(Continued)

Jim Hills: 02:03 Waving.

Ken Harvey: 02:03 So we want to do a shout-out to her, even as she waves at all of her adoring listeners who have not had an opportunity to listen to anything she's said because she won't get on mic. But we really appreciate her work that helps make the sound quality of the podcast what it is. And there are others who help us with this work, too. There's part of our web services team that helps with the way it looks as we post it on our website and who work with our podcast hosting platform, which is ...

Jim Hills: 02:46 Libsyn.

Ken Harvey: 02:47 Libsyn. And then we have a graphic designer who's helped make the look of it just wonderful. The reality is, this is not really hardly ... it's really not any of our day jobs. It's almost like a hobby that we squeeze in to our regular work.

Jim Hills: 03:10 I was thinking about that, Ken, that three and a half years ago now as I was coming on board, you said, "Hey, what do you think about a podcast? Think you can pull off a podcast?" And I said, "Sure, no problem." And it didn't happen until a year ago and it took months before we were actually doing our first podcast to get that done. And everybody says, "Hey, I'll just do a podcast. I'll grab my phone and do a podcast." Well, yeah, I guess you can do that. One of the things that I love-

Ken Harvey: 03:41 And some people do.

Jim Hills: 03:42 Yeah, and some people do. One of the things I love about-

Ken Harvey: 03:44 But it doesn't normally sound like this.

Jim Hills: 03:46 Right. Ours is, again, that the sound is great. It's up to us what to do with that great sound that Deborah provides us, but the sound is awesome. And then the work that Debie does in lining up the guests and defining who the guests are going to be. Not just lining them up but working to decide who they're going to be. As we were imagining this podcast, we imagined a lot of things and I'm really happy with, I think, the direction that we have come to, which is presenting really interesting people from the community who are doing interesting things. They're making the community, they are creating the fabric of the community where we live across Snohomish and Island Counties, and they get an opportunity to come in here and we get the chance to sit down and talk to them and they're so interesting.

Ken Harvey: 04:40 That's right.

Jim Hills: 04:41 They're so fun.

Ken Harvey: 04:42 Yeah, some of these individuals are really fascinating and one of the things I love is that some of them are community heroes. I mean, they're involved in their communities in amazing ways, giving back and enhancing the quality of life for the community. And some of them are celebrities within their communities at some level. Community leaders, regional leaders. Some of them have title, others have a great deal of authority or influence. Some of them are notable because of things that they've accomplished, and yet others are relatively unknown. But they've come up on our radar screens and we have extended the opportunity to interview them, have a conversation with them, get to know them a little bit better, and share that with you, our listening audience.

Ken Harvey: 05:47 Debie, our executive producer, has had the role of reaching out to them often on our behalf and scheduling them to appear on the air, and with all of them, one of the things that happens behind the scenes is essentially trying to prepare us as hosts to be able to ask some insightful questions, or at least to not reveal any levels of ignorance where we know nothing about them before we start asking them some questions. So Debie, thank you for that work. And that's just part of what happens behind the scenes, right?

Debie Murchie: 06:22 That's true. We do do a lot of research on the guests so that you do know what you're talking about and not to embarrass us. But scheduling is also an issue, trying to get everybody here at the same time because lots of us and lots of these guests all have very busy lives based on what they do and why we want them here, so it does take a little bit of manipulating to get everyone here and behind the mics like this.

Jim Hills: 06:55 You both were talking about who we've had come. I think we decided before we hit record that we probably were not going to probably go through all 33 ...

Debie Murchie: 07:08 Three.

Ken Harvey: 07:08 All 33 episodes ...

Jim Hills: 07:09 ... of the episodes.

Ken Harvey: 07:10 ... when we're taping this, yes.

Jim Hills: 07:12 But in fact, a couple came to mind. I'll touch on the one that just posted. So anniversary was 33 and we're already into the next year. We got episode 34 that just posted with Lynne Varner, who is the associate chancellor at WSU Everett. And I knew Lynne Varner's name not because she was at WSU but because she was a long-time opinion writer at the Seattle Times.

Debie Murchie: 07:43 Oh.

Jim Hills: 07:44 But then you get to understand and see everything that brought Lynne Varner to where she is, her passions for journalism, her passions for high education, the kinds of things that formed her values, her life, her drive, and just how invested she is in making the community better. So that one just posted. That's top of mind for me because I had just finished doing the post and getting that up. But they're all like that. They're all like that.

Ken Harvey: 08:18 Yeah. One of the things that's so interesting about these podcasts and the conversations we have with guests is getting to know them better on a professional level, because each guest typically ... well, many of our guests, I should say ... come on with maybe some things that they would really love to talk about, and almost all of them come in thinking that, "Gosh, no one's really going to be interested in me as a person. They might be interested in maybe a couple of things that I've accomplished or hopefully interested in what I'd love to say about the organization I work for now, or the cause that I'm really involved in, but not much about me." And because it seems like most of us tend to think that we're boring.

Jim Hills: 09:11 And most of us ...

Debie Murchie: 09:12 Are.

Jim Hills: 09:12 ... are.

Ken Harvey: 09:14 And maybe if we don't think we're boring, that's a tip of some other kind of disorder. I don't know. But it's fascinating to get to know some of these individuals better, just on a personal level, person to person. And that's part of what has been so intriguing, I think, with the different episodes that we've done. So you mentioned Lynne Varner, and it is fascinating, the things that are happening at WSU North at the Everett campus and the things they're trying to accomplish there. And yet it was also really fascinating to get to know more about Lynne and her upbringing, what brought her to the region after she had worked with the Washington Post and then coming across

country to The Seattle Times and then becoming really woven into the opinion side of journalism here in the Puget Sound region.

- Jim Hills: 10:17 Yeah, absolutely. The other ... as you were talking about, people who are unknown ... I don't know that we've had truly unknown ... not one comes to mind, but known in their areas and maybe not widely known outside of their areas. And one of the ones that I was thinking about as you were talking was Jack Archibald.
- Debie Murchie: 10:39 That's who I was going to talk about.
- Jim Hills: 10:40 Yeah, let's talk about Jack because-
- Debie Murchie: 10:42 He was ... Skeeter doodle.
- Jim Hills: 10:44 Skeeter doodle. And so Jack Archibald is not unknown in the art world. He's a star in the stained glass world. But he's also a guy who lives on the south end of Camano and is a complete character.
- Ken Harvey: 10:58 Yes he is. He described himself as a glass breaker, not a glass artisan. A glass breaker.
- Jim Hills: 11:06 Yeah, he came to art because he had to put the broken glass back together and he was completely humble about his artistic abilities, but then he starts talking about it and he's very intentional, he's very invested in his art. But then, "Yeah, no, I'm not really an artist, I'm a glass breaker."
- Ken Harvey: 11:24 Well, and you discover that ... and Jack is a great example of this, of both the modesty of our guests, but also the personalities behind them. And he especially was one of those who really presented a dryness that was so witty that it was almost disarming. He would say something and if you weren't listening carefully, you would think he was completely serious and yet you realize he had just told a joke and it was like, "Oh yeah, that's funny. That's really funny." You could tell that in his mind he had a little stopwatch and he was counting the seconds of how long it would take me to catch on that he had just told a joke.
- Ken Harvey: 12:21 So one of the things I really appreciated about hearing ... and one of the things I remember from that conversation with him and would especially invite everyone to, if you haven't listened to episode 12 which is the one that we titled The Art of Breaking

Glass with Jack Archibald, that you go back and listen to that. I remember this particular public art project that his proposal was accepted and he found himself working in this space and trying to figure out what in the world to do with this space, and so he ended up really kind of re-imagining it. And I believe that one ended up being kind of like a kaleidoscope glasswork, and so it didn't matter where you stood in the room. The light would actually catch you. And his talking about working with light was just really fascinating.

- Jim Hills: 13:21 Absolutely.
- Debie Murchie: 13:21 It seems that all of the glass windows and things that he's done around, all are so spectacular and are so large and they really take in the sunlight and really just are beautiful inside the areas like the Camano Island Library. Several of our libraries have some of his work, as does the ... Everett Station has that huge big window in the front, and that just is gorgeous.
- Jim Hills: 13:55 And then you think about Jack. So he's an artist and he does this stuff. Well, yeah. What else does he do for his community? Well, he doesn't just live on the south end of Camano. He organizes art shows for the entire island, he's got a band that plays at various ... I don't know about for free, but he plays at various groups. And so he's not only doing his art, he's a significant part of his community and that was a fun part to find out, too.
- Ken Harvey: 14:23 Speaking of his band, as he was describing his band, I really kept picturing one of the groups that would play on the old television show Hee Haw.
- Debie Murchie: 14:35 Oh yeah.
- Jim Hills: 14:36 Yeah. That's exactly what I was thinking, too.
- Ken Harvey: 14:39 The Whiskey Jug Band and the Mountain Dew Jug Band and all, and I thought, "Man, I could probably fit into a band like that without a lot of practice."
- Ken Harvey: 14:49 Hey, another episode that has been really heavily listened to is the one in which we had a guest, Bill Bernat.
- Jim Hills: 14:57 Oh, right.
- Debie Murchie: 14:57 Right.

Ken Harvey: 14:57 Bill was one of our TEDxSnoIsleLibraries speaker. His talk has been very popular on the Sno-Isle Libraries YouTube channel. But the link really is to the TED.com channel, because the TED.com ... T-E-D dot com ... those folks in New York picked up on his talk and decided to feature it as one of their featured TEDx Talks. And anyway, it has gone ...

Debie Murchie: 15:35 Viral.

Ken Harvey: 15:36 ... viral. It is probably moving close to two million views around the world and he was a tremendous guest.

Debie Murchie: 15:45 I think he was very helpful to a lot of people, too, that have to deal with depression, or people in their lives that have anxieties and things. It was nice to hear how we could help them.

Jim Hills: 16:00 And when you watch his TED Talk, his TEDx presentation at TEDxSnoIsleLibraries, and when we had him here in the studio, he's going to come in and talk about depression and how to deal with it and you don't think you're supposed to laugh at that, but then you listen to Bill talk about it and how he deals with it and how he thinks others should deal with it and it's all about laughing.

Debie Murchie: 16:23 That's true.

Jim Hills: 16:24 It's all about learning how to deal with depression in a very real way, but not in a very depressing way. So he's just hilarious.

Debie Murchie: 16:36 One of my favorite episodes was actually the millennials. It really makes me feel good to know that these kids have our future in their hands. There were five young ladies and gentlemen who actually were some of our TEDx speakers and they each bring different perspectives to the world and they are scientists and just very deep thinkers. I was very impressed with them and it made me feel good about what we might see down the pike.

Ken Harvey: 17:14 Well, that was actually episode 25 and it was a special episode, I thought as well, because it was actually hosted ... or the interviewer was a young man who served as our intern for much of 2019 from Marysville. His name is Rilee Louangphakdy. And Rilee had been a TEDxSnoIsleLibraries speaker for us, I believe, in 2016.

Debie Murchie: 17:51 Mm-hmm (affirmative).

- Ken Harvey: 17:52 And he pulled together four other young speakers who had spoken during the TEDxSnoIsleLibraries events and really took them through, I thought, a fascinating interview where they talked about what that experience had been like for each of them, but also what had happened in their lives ...
- Debie Murchie: 18:15 Since.
- Ken Harvey: 18:16 ... since then. And as you've said, Debie, it was really affirming to hear ... and for me, exciting to hear ... that these young people were doing some incredible things, but also being really thoughtful about how to make their mark in the world going forward.
- Jim Hills: 18:40 The thing that I liked most about that episode besides what they were saying and the amazing people that they are ... we did that at the Black Box Theatre at Edmonds Community College rather than here at our sumptuous podcast studios here at the Service Center in Marysville, Washington. And my role that night was not to talk to anybody, I was holding a camera. And they were out in the middle of the room. There was not an audience beyond myself and Ken and the technician, which wasn't Deborah at the time. We used somebody from the Black Box. Anyway, so my role was to try and capture them on images and so listening to them talk and then being able to look at them through the lens and see their eyes, see their voices, see who they were was very powerful for me on a personal level. Some of those photos are attached to the post that we have online in a gallery. But the experience I had that night was really quite powerful for me, if I can spit it out. I really enjoyed that night.
- Ken Harvey: 19:56 Let me just mention who those guests were in that episode because I think they deserve their own shout-out. We mentioned that Rilee did the interview and he interviewed Sargi Handa, who is from the Mukilteo area, Mark Perez who had come from ... I think the Marysville area?
- Debie Murchie: 20:18 Mm-hmm (affirmative). Yes.
- Ken Harvey: 20:19 But who actually, in some ways, was returning back to the area for the interview because he had relocated to the Los Angeles area ...
- Jim Hills: 20:29 Yeah, LA.
- Ken Harvey: 20:29 ... where he is pursuing his dream down there working with someone who is very well known in the motivational speaking

area. And then Dhruvik Parikh, who is, I think, from Henry Jackson High School in the Mill Creek area.

Jim Hills: 20:46 In Mill Creek, right.

Ken Harvey: 20:47 And one of the junior scientists and gosh, fascinating guy.

Jim Hills: 20:52 I almost think that we no longer talk about them as junior scientists.

Ken Harvey: 20:56 Yes. A scientist in his own right, then.

Jim Hills: 20:58 I think they are leading the way.

Debie Murchie: 20:59 No kidding.

Ken Harvey: 21:00 And the last person was Harshu Musunuri, also, I think, from Henry Jackson.

Debie Murchie: 21:05 Correct.

Ken Harvey: 21:06 And so, we had two individuals from Mill Creek, one person from the Mukilteo area from Kamiak High School, and then two I think who had been from Marysville, including the interviewer. And again, just a fascinating collection, a gathering of individuals who show that, regardless of what you might be thinking of the latest generation, there is a lot to be hopeful for.

Jim Hills: 21:40 As you were talking, I hadn't really thought about this, about the podcast as an extension of what TEDxSnoIsleLibraries was about, which was to look at people from the communities and shine a light on them, give them an opportunity to speak about the things that they were bringing forth. And now it seems so obvious. I don't know why I hadn't thought of it before. But the podcast is really doing much the same.

Debie Murchie: 22:08 That's true.

Ken Harvey: 22:09 Well, I'm thinking of a couple other episodes that I thought were just really fascinating, and both of them had some women in the area who we invited in individually. One was episode 11 where we had Kathy Coffey from Leadership Snohomish County come in and talk about her work, the work of the organization that she's leading that's helping to build a next generation of leaders for our area. And then she shared some of her own life story and her work as a TEDxSnoIsleLibraries speaker. And then episode 19 that had Allison Warren-Barbour.

Jim Hills: 22:54 I'm so glad that one's on your list.

Debie Murchie: 22:57 I know. That was a good one.

Jim Hills: 22:57 Allison's on my list, too.

Ken Harvey: 22:58 Yeah. From United Way Snohomish County. Yeah, so what intrigued you about that one?

Jim Hills: 23:07 United Way is moving through change, and Alison Warren-Barbour came in to help make that change and bring that to reality. Listening to her talk about how the organization is working with the community, how it moved from where it had been to where it is today, the impact it's having, how they're intentionality is being focused now, was ... I don't know what the right word is. It was just inspiring. And I think if you think you know an organization that's been around for as long as United Way, you can't imagine it doing it any other way than it always has and this was a tough place for the organization. The previous executive director had set the organization on its path and then had retired, and Allison brought just the right amount of energy and experience from her experiences on the East Coast, so moving to the area.

Jim Hills: 24:18 And I had an opportunity to see her in a public presentation and I thought, "Wow, this is a new leader for this community." And then we had her here in the studio and had a chance to sit across the table from her and she's powerful and she has vision and she has energy. It was very, very exciting to be there and listen to her.

Debie Murchie: 24:41 And while you were interviewing her, I was interviewing her daughter.

Jim Hills: 24:45 Oh yeah, right?

Debie Murchie: 24:47 She was with me coloring and playing while her mom was in here.

Jim Hills: 24:54 So is there another Warren-Barbour on the way as a leader?

Debie Murchie: 24:56 I think so.

Jim Hills: 24:56 Yeah, there you go.

Debie Murchie: 24:58 She was a very smart little girl.

- Ken Harvey: 25:00 Well, one of the things that I found really interesting in talking with Allison was around the work that today's United Way is doing around what they call CORE, which I believe stood for Creating Open Roads for Equity.
- Jim Hills: 25:17 Yes. Thank you for reminding me. I couldn't remember what that piece was.
- Ken Harvey: 25:21 Yeah. And how United Way Snohomish County especially is really focused on helping families find ways to escape the traps of poverty. And they're thinking about bringing the right resources that are available through community groups and community service groups, bringing them all together to help a family that may find itself in poverty or in crisis or in need and helping them work on all of the aspects that need to be addressed so that they really move forward rather than kind of piecemeal approaches that are just disconnected. And essentially, when all those services are exhausted or people have gotten tired, the family really is still in the same space that it was in before.
- Ken Harvey: 26:18 I'm really excited about bringing Allison back Fall 2019 or early 2020 so that we can really revisit the work and the success of the work that has been underway now in what will be now, I think, a year that she's been in place. And I'm aware that Sno-Isle Libraries has two of our community libraries that are part of works in two different communities in ...
- Debie Murchie: 26:47 Stanwood.
- Ken Harvey: 26:47 ... Stanwood and in Darrington where they, under the United Way of Snohomish County banner, are working with a number of other community groups to essentially help address poverty at the family level in their community. So we want to take a closer look at what's happening in each of those communities, and with Allison, really kind of assess where this whole effort is. So I think that's going to be exciting. I'm looking forward to that.
- Debie Murchie: 27:16 The other person that I really enjoyed on a personal level was Sarri Gilman because finding your boundaries. It's often hard for all of us to do that and I find that when I was listening to her that it was easier for me to understand how to say, "Okay, no. I can't do that now." I mean, it was very helpful for me to listen to her and really understand that sometimes you really have to put yourself first and help people as much as you can when you can, but there are times when you just need to take a step back and say, "No, this isn't going to work."

Ken Harvey: 28:00 Yeah. I think that our technical producer just really has taken what Sarri has said to heart and every time you've given her the opportunity to appear on microphone, she has set her boundaries. She has said, "Okay, no. No, I'm not going to do it." So we appreciate her really modeling it for the rest of us and we're going to be more like her when we grow up.

Ken Harvey: 28:28 Yeah, Sarri was an incredible guest and we really kind of appreciate the wisdom in a number of things that she put forward in terms of the boundary setting and how to deal with overwhelm situations. I, like many, am at the point in life where I'm dealing with aging parents and ...

Debie Murchie: 28:54 As am I.

Ken Harvey: 28:55 ... also dealing with, thankfully, no longer children at home but children who-

Jim Hills: 29:01 They weren't that bad.

Ken Harvey: 29:02 Well. I'm glad to be a parent, but I'm much happier being a grandparent. And thankfully not having to deal with grandchildren who live with me, but I know that some in our audience do have that situation. They're dealing with both aging parents and either children or grandchildren who need to be taken care of, and it is very easy to find yourself in this state of being overwhelmed by the pressures that just don't seem to ...

Debie Murchie: 29:33 End.

Ken Harvey: 29:33 ... to diminish.

Debie Murchie: 29:33 They don't seem to end.

Ken Harvey: 29:34 Yeah, they just keep going on and on and seem to multiply. So Sarri had some great advice and boy, thank you, Sarri.

Debie Murchie: 29:44 Yes. Really.

Jim Hills: 29:45 Another piece of the podcasts that we've had in the past year who we have had one time in the studio, but his work has appeared more times on the podcast, and that is Abe Martinez.

Ken Harvey: 29:59 Abe Martinez.

Debie Murchie: 30:00 Yes.

Ken Harvey: 30:00 Our intrepid reporter.

Jim Hills: 30:03 I love it when we have a piece from Abe Martinez. Abe has tremendous skills, great interviewing skills.

Debie Murchie: 30:11 Yes he does.

Jim Hills: 30:11 He's got the prototypical radio voice because he has a background in NPR radio.

Ken Harvey: 30:18 Yes he does.

Jim Hills: 30:19 He's been there, done that. He sounds so authoritative and awesome. He does such a great job. And just recently, episode 30 had a couple of pieces from Abe on Third-Grade Reading Challenge and actually, someone that he knows from his own community over in Lake Stevens, Shaelynn Bates.

Debie Murchie: 30:38 Shaelynn Bates, yes.

Jim Hills: 30:45 I love when Abe has been out on assignment and then it shows up in my email box and here's the file and, "Hey, could you take a listen to this?" Yes, right away. I know I'm going to feel better right after I listen to this. It's going to be so good. Yeah.

Ken Harvey: 31:00 I think Abe's work has just elevated the quality of what we're able to offer. And really, one of the reasons why I think his work has been so important is it gives us a way of sharing maybe in shorter segments some very important things that are happening, either through other personalities or other events that is just nice for people to know about.

Debie Murchie: 31:29 I agree. The other thing I really have appreciated are the book notes that we have on some of our podcasts. I have actually looked at some of the books that were mentioned on there. Some of them not quite my cup of tea, but there are ... The dystopian novels are a little too much for me right now.

Ken Harvey: 31:51 Yes. A little overwhelming.

Debie Murchie: 31:54 A little scary.

Ken Harvey: 31:55 So Sarri would say, "Don't read them." But if you like that kind of stuff, man.

Debie Murchie: 32:00 We have a bunch.

Ken Harvey: 32:01 Yes, we have a number of those.

Debie Murchie: 32:03 But I do really appreciate having the book notes and having some of our librarians talk to us about something different that we might not have ever heard of or read before, so I really do appreciate that.

Ken Harvey: 32:17 Well, and we've had opportunity to have some of the librarians actually on the mic with us and talking about some of their recommendations for reading, and in other cases we've had our intrepid podcast reporter, Abe Martinez, interview them off-mic, which isn't quite right. He interviews them and he's taping any responses to any questions he asks, but he weaves it into what I would consider like an NPR-ish level story. And he's done that before, and one of the things he did was around, I think ...

Debie Murchie: 32:52 Romance.

Ken Harvey: 32:52 ... romance novels. And really fascinating about ... I think a fascinating way to introduce to some of our listeners or to reaffirm to others who are already romance lovers that it's a thing and it's a big thing for many readers and it is considered a sign of literary-ness to read those. No need to be ashamed.

Debie Murchie: 33:25 It is one of the most read genres in our system. And there are just so many different ones out there. There's the typical bodice rippers, or there's the mystery love, or there's just a plethora of different styles of writing for that.

Jim Hills: 33:46 Right. Speaking of romances, right now on the Beyond Bestsellers blog ...

Debie Murchie: 33:56 Right. Nora Roberts.

Jim Hills: 33:57 ... BiblioFiles, it's all about Nora Roberts. And they have a bunch of alternatives to Nora Roberts. If you've already read all 200 of Nora Roberts's books, or the 40 of the books that she's written under the other name that she writes under ... Robb? JR Robb? Something Robb?

Debie Murchie: 34:13 JD Robb.

Jim Hills: 34:13 JD Robb. Then we have alternatives, and those are all available in the library. So yeah.

Ken Harvey: 34:20 Well, we only have a couple minutes left, but I wanted to just mention in talking about and mentioning some of our librarians

that there was one category of book that one of them mentioned that has continued to stick with me, and it was called alternative history vintage glam spy thrillers. I don't know if you remember that.

- Debie Murchie: 34:43 Oh yes.
- Ken Harvey: 34:43 That was from episode two and ...
- Debie Murchie: 34:47 I remember that one.
- Ken Harvey: 34:48 ... it was just so fascinating to hear that description, alternative history vintage glam spy thriller. So if that intrigues you, go back and take a listen to that episode, episode two. The title of the episode was Can Amazon Really Replace Public Libraries?
- Jim Hills: 35:05 Oh yeah.
- Debie Murchie: 35:06 Which ...
- Ken Harvey: 35:07 And I just also wanted to mention while I've got this stream of consciousness going ... just in case I forget ... that I've really appreciated the opportunity for us to, through the podcast, also explore some of the ways that Sno-Isle Libraries has been working as stewards of the public's money. We've had a number of stories on about environmental stewardship practices that we've had, how we've worked to manage our facilities and energy use and other ways of saving the public money. I just think that it's really important that as public servants that we're working always with the mind of spending the public's money effectively and wisely, and then letting people know how we've done that. So even though you might just expect that that's going to happen as a matter of course, I think everyone likes to know that it actually is happening and, "Give me examples of how you're doing that."
- Jim Hills: 36:16 Give you examples now of how I'm doing that?
- Ken Harvey: 36:19 No.
- Debie Murchie: 36:20 Brian Rush could do that.
- Ken Harvey: 36:21 Yeah, Brian-
- Jim Hills: 36:21 I've been using the same pen for a long time.

- Ken Harvey: 36:23 Well, and Brian Rush has actually been doing that and others have been doing that here at the library and we've got several different episodes that share that information.
- Ken Harvey: 36:35 So as we look at ending this episode, a retrospective looking back to one year's worth of podcast we've put on, let's just take a minute to acknowledge that it's not always been easy. As I have learned, many individuals who decide they're going to do a podcast, they discover the same thing that people who decide they're going to be active on Facebook or Twitter. It's like, "Oh, okay. First one, maybe. Okay, maybe two, maybe three." But after that it's like, "Okay, what are we going to say?" It gets to be work and I just think it's really remarkable that we've been able to do this for a year and that our listeners have continued to grow and be with us all the way.
- Jim Hills: 37:24 On the front end of this, it was a little hard to imagine exactly how deep the well was. Now that we're a year into it, I realize that the well is bottomless because the community is so rich, the people are so rich. I mean, there are so many stories out there that are so interesting. I mean, thing that excites me is what can we do in addition to this? You mentioned the libraries, Debie, and those book notes. Well, we have some very exciting, very knowledgeable librarians and they're just itching to share because that's what they do, that's why they're librarians. They want to share and bring their passion to others. So I'm thinking that.
- Jim Hills: 38:13 I'm thinking Check it Out! has been an ongoing podcast, but we did one episode where we did a podcast about a podcast with the opioid crisis ...
- Debie Murchie: 38:25 Yes, Finding Fixes.
- Jim Hills: 38:25 ... in conjunction with the sheriff's office and the podcast we were doing it about was this thing called Finding Fixes, and it was a finite number of episodes. And as I think about some of the stories that we have to tell about the library, maybe that's the format that can be used. Say it's a six-episode bit of a podcast in addition to a story, in addition to a video. One of the other great skills that Deborah Tahara brings is video. She's not only great at audio, she's great at video. So we have a lot of great stories and a lot of great ways to tell them, and the fact that we've had this experience with a podcast just opens up so many more opportunities.
- Ken Harvey: 39:10 It does. And we have been, I think, very, very fortunate that we had early support from, I'd say, maybe our first several guests

who really were willing to experiment with us. Shout-out to that early group, Andrew Ballard and Seconde Nimenya ...

Debie Murchie: 39:32 Nimenya.

Ken Harvey: 39:35 ... and Terry Lippincott and Marti Anamosa from the Sno-Isle Libraries Trustee Board and Foundation Board, and others. There have been names that were known to us, maybe not quite as known to others, but those are individuals who stepped up and said, "Okay, yeah. I'm willing to try this new thing with you." And others who said, "You know what? I've already got a great reputation. I don't know if I want to be associated with this little fledgling startup in the garage kind of thing that you guys are doing," and all. But we want to just thank every guest who has been part of this journey thus far, and every listener who's been part of it. Thank you for the feedback, and we'd really love more feedback from you.

Debie Murchie: 40:27 Yes we would. And if you would like to give us some feedback, you can certainly email us at checkitoutpodcast@sno-isle.org. We'd love to hear from you, and we'd love to hear if you have any individuals that you think we should interview on our podcast.

Ken Harvey: 40:48 So those individuals could be local heroes in your community, they could be coworkers that you think are just ... someone's doing some incredible work that the region ought to know about. But there is no person too big, at a year into this, that we would be too embarrassed to invite. So President Trump, expect an invitation. The king ... Who has a king these days?

Debie Murchie: 41:20 Norway.

Jim Hills: 41:20 Yeah, of Norway.

Ken Harvey: 41:22 Norway. King of Norway, there might be an invitation coming. CEO of your corporation, yeah, we'd be more than happy to approach. Russel Wilson, you can expect an invite coming.

Jim Hills: 41:32 Is he playing tonight?

Debie Murchie: 41:36 No, he is not.

Jim Hills: 41:36 Oh, there you go.

Ken Harvey: 41:39 Well, and by the time people hear this, they won't know what night we're even talking about but ...

Jim Hills: 41:43 First preseason game.

Ken Harvey: 41:45 Yeah. We're recording this the first preseason game of the 2019 season. But again, if you have any suggestions of who you would like to have us interview, let us know. Or any suggestions in terms of specific types of materials that the library might cover that you would love us to chat about, let us know.

Debie Murchie: 42:06 And again, send it to checkitoutpodcast@sno-isle.org.

Jim Hills: 42:14 Well done.

Ken Harvey: 42:15 Yeah. And just finally, if you hear any episode that really intrigues you, someone says something and you think, "Oh, this is really great stuff," share it with others. Push it forward on your social media, let your friends, family know about it, coworkers. We always appreciate that happening. And if you want to know more about how you can access the program, you can always subscribe to it wherever you find podcasts. Apple Podcast and other places, Google Podcasts. But you can also find it always on the homepage of Sno-Isle Libraries .org.

Jim Hills: 42:57 Website, yep.

Debie Murchie: 42:58 sno-isle.org. [sno dash Isle dot org](http://sno-dash-isle-dot-org).

Jim Hills: 43:01 That's why you're in charge. [crosstalk 00:43:03]

Ken Harvey: 43:03 Yes, that's why you're in charge.

Ken Harvey: 43:04 Hey, just want to thank everyone for listening and this is a wrap on our one-year retrospective.

Speaker 5: 43:11 When you give to the Sno-Isle Libraries Foundation, your gift touches generations. Your donation helps turn babies and young children into readers, turn students and first-time entrepreneurs into successes, and helps maintain the lifelong learning of adults, seniors, and our home-bound neighbors. You can be part of the change you're looking for. Your one-time gift, monthly gift, or memorial gift can make all the difference. Please consider investing in children, seniors, and others through the Sno-Isle Libraries Foundation today.

Ken Harvey: 43:42 That's this week's episode of the Check It Out! podcast. Don't forget to join us next week for another episode. Thanks for listening.