

Central Oregon business

Financially fragile



Local businesses struggle, sacrifice in order to survive the pandemic

BY SUZANNE ROIG • The Bulletin

Getting through the pandemic for The Red Chair Gallery required Rita Dunlavy to take a hard look at her finances.

The owner of the downtown Bend gallery asked herself some hard questions: Did she need property insurance, utilities, the water cooler and the advertising items in her budget? Where could she cut and how could she keep her artists paying to display their art even though no customers were allowed inside?

Dunlavy slashed her budget and emerged this summer with a cleaner, freshly painted gallery and a healthy budget that will enable the business to carry on for another year using the cash on hand.

Businesses have faced the fear, the uncertainty and the doubt since the pandemic or they restructured and have emerged stronger, reshaping their business. Still others have failed to stay afloat.

"I have enough cash stashed aside that I'm confident that unless we completely close down or go to only by appointment, we can last another year," Dunlavy said. "By the end of January, we plan to have online shopping on our website."

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Rita Dunlavy works on straightening a piece of art on display at the Red Chair Gallery in Bend.

Ryan Brennecke/
The Bulletin



Red Chair Gallery in downtown Bend featured the works of photographer Sue Dougherty, pictured, along with acrylics and monotypes by Michelle Lindblom during the month of June. Member artists also took pains to paint the group gallery's walls during the spring 2020 closure.

Submitted photo

The 'Star Trek' futuristic technology that exists today

Like many of you, I was a huge fan of the TV series "Star Trek" as a kid, and all the spin-offs as well. After a total of 726 episodes (including all the spin-offs), this ground-breaking series is forever tattooed on our collective consciousness.

It's creator, Gene Roddenberry, foresaw (or was the seed of) many of the technologies we use today. Star Trek influenced such luminaries as Bill Gates, who dressed up as Spock on stage to launch a new version of Windows. Other famous fans

EDGE OF TECH

By Preston Callicott



("Trekkies") include famous tech CEOs such as Jeff Bezos (Amazon), Elon Musk (Tesla, SpaceX, Boring Inc., Starlink, Neuralink) and Steve Wozniak (Apple). My favorite Trekkie was Steven Hawking, the great physicist.

He even starred in a "Star Trek –

Next Generation" episode ("Descent, Part 1"), where he appeared as a computerized version of himself, the only guest star to appear as himself in the entire series. To be fair, nearly everyone in tech is a fan, because of its influence on tech innovation. Here are some of the show's futuristic technologies that came to fruition.

Communicator = cell phone

Captain Kirk flips open what looks like an old Nokia flip-phone and talks to his crew. However, the mighty iP-

hone or Galaxy can do so much more. You can thank a hardcore Trekkie fan, Martin Cooper. He was an engineer at Motorola when he decided to recreate Captain Kirk's communicator, and he made the first cellular phone call on his invention in 1973.

PADDs = laptops and iPads

The Personal Access Display Devices, (PADDs, HoloPADDs) were used by Starfleet and many alien races. Today, its progeny are laptop computer and iPads. Considering

that the computers of that era were massive, football-field-sized behemoths with very limited capabilities, the idea of a PADD was an amazing creative spark, well out of the realm of reality.

Tricorder = handheld medical monitoring devices

"Star Trek" grumpy doctor, McCoy ("Bones"), carried around a tricorder, which could diagnose all sorts of physical and mental illnesses.

See **Preston** / C3