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Summer is Coming

By August Bush



(clockwise): Sunset at Crescent Beach in July 2019; Crow at Lincoln Park with a bug in its beak, February 2019; Waterfall at Snoqualmie River. Photos: August Bush

Animal Crossing Review

By Ava Schroeder

Animal Crossing is a social stimulation game by Nintendo where you have your own island and you are the resident representative. You can invite villagers (Non-Player Characters or NPC) to live on your island; you can make outfits, grow fruit, and many other things. My favorite thing about *Animal Crossing* is growing flowers. I have a goal to have



Animal Crossing characters of my sister and me. Photo: Ava Schroeder

every color possible through flower breeding. I plant two flowers next to each other and after watering them for a while, one grows a new flower, sometimes a new color. I also really enjoy collecting things for the museum. I also really enjoy collecting things for the museum. To get art, you have to talk to an NPC called “Redd” and he will sell you some art—but watch out, sometimes it is fake! You can get fossils, dig in cracks in the ground, and if you find something you take it to “Blathers,” the museum curator and he assesses whether or not the museum already has the fossil. You can also catch unique fish and bugs to add to the museum collection.

There are a lot of things to do in *Animal Crossing*, which makes it so appealing. I highly recommend this game for Nintendo game lovers!

Section 9 — NBA update

By James Orellana-Guzman

The NBA is on the verge of coming back after shutting down in early March. Last week, we found out that the NBA and Walt Disney Company are talking about continuing the season in late July at Disney World in Orlando, FL! Even though there is a glimmer of hope for not only the players but also the fans, we will just have to wait and see. The NBA conference finals would be going on right now, with the finals starting on June 4, but what is one more month without basketball?

Fun pictures

By Colin Zoffel



(clockwise): A creepy-crawler in late spring; Two dogs—my dog thought the other one was real; Have to buy more puzzles because of quarantine.
Photos: Colin Zoffel

The Hand Sanitizer Flood

By Colin Zoffel

When COVID-19 started, there was a constant demand for cleaning supplies, especially Purell. With this new demand, companies were pumping out massive amounts of this clear goo. At this moment, three months later, people are still interested in buying obscene amounts of this stuff to “stock up.” You may be wondering what happens after the crisis when there is not as much demand for hand sanitizer? I expect the number of hand sanitizer bottles will have piled up creating too much supply to match the lower demand. Stores will not accept returns of used bottles of this liquid. Costco has distinctly said it will not even accept unopened bottles. So now, the world has more sanitizer than it needs for awhile—now what?

Researchers say you should use 3 mL of hand sanitizer to clean your hands, let's say the average person does this 5–10 times a day. 473 mL in the average 16 oz. bottle should last about a month. In our family of four, we have had the same 16 oz. bottle in the car and have used it every time we go out for three months, and it is still over half-full.

It has other uses, too, as cell phone screen cleaner, stain remover, pimple treatment, glue remover, hair gel, deodorant, and even slime remover. Those aren't really big enough things to get rid of mountains of hand sanitizer, but it's something.

The FDA says “typically, the industry standard is two to three years before hand sanitizer expires.” Further, hand sanitizer is classified as hazardous waste. To dispose of it, you have to make an appointment with the hazardous waste management unit and arrange a pickup. So let this article be a warning to stop buying hand sanitizer.

Editor's Note: In writing this article, Mr. Zoffel consulted the work of Scott Frothingham in *Healthline*: “Can I Use Expired Hand Sanitizer”. *Healthline*, April 16, 2020. www.healthline.com/health/does-hand-sanitizer-expire. Accessed May 27, 2020.