

What you need

By: April Lawyer @ApLawy

There are many times in our life when we realize that perhaps we are not as prepared as we should be. Maybe something from our past catches up to us, an enormous problem comes out of nowhere, or we simply encounter an inconvenience that ruins our day. We find out that there are things that we needed that we didn't know we needed. I am here to reveal some of these needs so that you'll be a little bit more prepared in the future.

Many of us here at school plan to go to college, meaning quite a few will be living away from home in either a dorm or apartment. Being college students, not many of us will have enough money for a multitude of fancy appliances for budget cooking. That's why you need a hotplate. Hotplates are portable, easy to use, and work just as well as any burner on a stove. A good hotplate won't cost more than \$100, and can be used for most any type of cooking as long as you have a pan. They are great for camping, or anyone who doesn't want to splurge on an entire oven and stove.

Imagine, you're stranded in the middle of nowhere, and there's no sign of water for miles. Maybe you need a pit to *ahem* relieve yourself. Thankfully, a good shovel can help with both of these things. In many places, digging a hole can help collect groundwater, and provides a place to dispose of your waste in a sanitary manner. Also, you never know when you'll need to dig a hole for a fence post, collect dirt for a garden bed, or dig yourself out of a collapsed building. I recommend keeping a foldable shovel in the trunk of your car and in your basement. It is a versatile tool you never knew you needed until you do.

One last thing that you may need is a "CD" or Certificate of Deposit. This is a type of savings account that has a much higher interest rate than a normal one. With a CD account, you can grow your money over time instead of having it just sit around. Unfortunately, you are unable to take money out of the account until a specific date, usually three or five years after you sign the agreement. Once you get a reasonable sum of money, usually more than a thousand dollars, you should put it into a CD account to maximize how much you save. It's not something that many high schoolers know about, but it's important to be aware of it in case you're already thinking of retirement. Remember, there are



My very own shovel that I use for gardening, flattening land, and burying dog feces.

so many things out there that you don't know you need, and many of them can help you. Try to discover as many as possible, and you may find that your life becomes easier.

Film industry flops

By: Sydney Burlage @burlage_sydney



Antonio Cayler, senior, browses the Netflix streaming network to look for a new show to watch.

Everyone in the world is painfully aware of the current COVID-19 pandemic. Quarantine has been hard on everyone, but one thing that has helped get us through it has been binging T.V. shows and movies. What happens, though, when we run out

of new things to watch? This has never been a concern before with new media coming out all the time, but the film industry is also struggling in these days of uncertainty.

Fan favorites like Grey's Anatomy, Chicago Med, The Bachelor, Chicago PD, The Blacklist, and many more have ended their seasons early. This means that T.V. shows that had "ordered" a certain number of episodes did not end up completing the original number of episodes. Instead of suspending production like many others, they decided to quit while they were ahead and hopefully resume when the world has sorted itself out. Unfortunately for the viewers, some T.V. shows shut down entirely.

On the movie side of things most films had been pushed back just a few months at the start of the pandemic. As the situation got worse, and the near future wasn't looking promising for a release, many companies moved back their releases even farther. Some moved back years to 2021 and 2022 while others said their dates were "undetermined." Even if filming was completed on movies, many productions are waiting to release because of the decrease in possible revenue.

Movie theaters in Iowa were allowed to reopen

at the end of may. Regulations were put in place to keep all safe during the pandemic which involved only having the theatres at 50% capacity. This obviously puts a dent in how many people can see a movie, and how much money the movie makers get. This has a huge effect on release dates for movies, especially the ones expected to be popular.

Whether or not you are able to watch any new shows may be up to the coronavirus, but there are always the classics on Netflix to fall back on. This virus has changed our lives in many ways, some much more serious than movies, but supporting all industries will continue to be an important part of being as close to normal as possible. As we head into winter, more movies will start to come out again. Only time will tell if we will be able to enjoy these shows in the theatre or if streaming networks will be our only hope in the coming months.

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