

# LEVY: Despite pandemic, commissioners agree that levy question can't wait

continued from A1

answered: One, is this the right measure and two, can it possibly wait."

Hood River County has enough reserve funding to maintain existing service levels through the end of the fiscal year, June 2020; but if the county has not secured additional funding by then, they will have make service reductions, primarily within public safety.

Benton explained that, due to the county's financial situation and the necessity of keeping enough staff to manage an emergency response, he felt the answer to both of those questions was "no."

The other commissioners said that they agreed.

"Come July, we'll have to make cuts," said Commissioner Les Perkins, "So if we don't pass funding now, our credible services that we pro-

vide to the county are going to be cut to a point where we just can't function the way that we need to."

Said Commissioner Karen Joplin, "I think the county may be called upon to assist in ways that we don't yet know, and I feel compelled that we have to put the measure on the ballot and try."

"The way I see it, it doesn't matter if we pull this now or it fails, the result of that is going to be devastating for our county," said Commissioner Rich McBride, "The only way forward that can save us from these cuts, which will have impacts years into the future ... is to run this as well as we can."

More information on the measure is available on the county's website, [www.co.hood-river.or.us](http://www.co.hood-river.or.us).



Photo by Emily Fitzgerald

CHAIRS set up 3-feet apart in a county conference room to promote social distancing during the special meeting.



Photo by Shari Bosler

## PLANT SALE CANCELED

The Central Gorge and Wasco County Master Gardener Associations have decided to cancel their Annual Plant Sales that were scheduled to take place on May 9. Pictured is last year's sale at the Central Gorge Master Gardener greenhouse in Hood River. Each Master Gardener Association came to this decision to protect Master Gardener volunteers and community members during the COVID-19 pandemic. "The Central Gorge and Wasco County Master Gardener Associations thank you for your past patronage of our Annual Spring Plant Sales and hope to be able to provide you with high quality, locally grown plants again in future years," said a press release. Information about virtual plant clinics will be available soon.

# TRASH TALK

**Q.** Where do I dispose of sharps containers? Riane, Hood River

**A.** Riane, used sharps pose a potential health danger. So we really appreciate that folks properly dispose of them. There are several free drop sites for sharps in our area. Sharps must be in an approved red sharps container. The three drop sites are: Hood River Transfer Station, The Dalles Disposal, and the Moro Medical Clinic.

questions to:  
**Tri-County**  
 Hazardous Waste & Recycling Program  
 (541)-506-2636 [www.tricountyrecycle.com](http://www.tricountyrecycle.com)

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### You're a GEM!

You know you have a birthDAY. Did you know you also have a birthSTONE? A special gem stone has been selected to be the birthstone for each month of the year.

### Discover Your Birthstone

- Find the month you were born in the box below.
- Next to your birthday month, there are two symbols. The first symbol shows you which horizontal line to follow on the Intergalactic Gem Stone Locator Grid. The second symbol tells you which vertical line to follow.
- The gem at the point where the two lines meet is your personal birthstone!

Standards Link: Math: Measure time using calendars; Reading Comprehension: Follow simple written directions.

I brought precious Alphas from planet Crz Tahl to trade for gem stones from earth, but I dropped them all over this page. How many can you find?

**Color the Birthstones**

- Garnet - purplish red
- Amethyst - purple
- Aquamarine - greenish blue
- Diamond - white
- Emerald - green
- Pearl - white
- Ruby - red
- Peridot - light green
- Sapphire - blue
- Opal - blue and green and white
- Topaz - orangish yellow
- Turquoise - light blue

### Birthstone Meanings

Each birthstone has a special meaning. To find out, do each math problem, put your answer on the line next to each gem and then find the answer in the list on the right.

13 - 9 = ___ Garnet	18 - 16 = ___ Ruby
7 - 2 = ___ Amethyst	9 - 6 = ___ Peridot
4 + 3 = ___ Aquamarine	11 - 10 = ___ Sapphire
4 + 4 = ___ Diamond	2 + 4 = ___ Opal
15 - 6 = ___ Emerald	8 + 2 = ___ Topaz
16 - 5 = ___ Pearl	16 - 4 = ___ Turquoise

- Good thinking
- Contentment
- Married happiness
- Dependability
- Sincerity
- Hope
- Courage
- Innocence
- Love
- Loyalty
- Health
- Success

Standards Link: Vocabulary Development: Recognize words and phrases that show rather than tell events.

Help the spaceship reach the planet.

### Birthstone Survey

My birthstone is: \_\_\_\_\_

My friend's birthstone is: \_\_\_\_\_

My teacher's birthstone is: \_\_\_\_\_

My pet's birthstone is: \_\_\_\_\_

Family member birthstones: \_\_\_\_\_

Standards Link: Research: Locate information through interview and investigation.

### Double Double Word Search

Find the words in the puzzle. How many of them can you find on this page?

AQUAMARINE  
 GARNET  
 AMETHYST  
 DIAMOND  
 EMERALD  
 PEARL  
 RUBY  
 PERIDOT  
 SAPPHIRE  
 OPAL  
 TOPAZ  
 TURQUOISE

B I R G A R N E T S  
 A P E R I D O T U D  
 M T R H S E T O R I  
 E N I R A M A U Q A  
 T Y H N L E E Z U M  
 H B P E A R L A O O  
 Y U P S P A Q P I N  
 S R A U O L I O S D  
 T M S N O D A T E T

Standards Link: Letter sequencing, Recognized identical words. Skim and scan reading. Recall spelling patterns.

### FROM THE Kid Scoop LESSON LIBRARY

#### Fact and Opinion

A newspaper publishes both facts and opinions. Look through the newspaper for three examples of each. Discuss with a parent how you can tell the difference.

Standards Link: Reading Comprehension: Distinguish between fact and opinion.

### Write On!

## Diamonds and Gems

I am brilliant because ...  
 Finish this story.

Standards Link: Visual Discrimination: Identify similarities and differences in common objects.

### Kid Scoop Together:

#### The Four Cs

Diamonds are the hardest natural materials known and they are the most popular of all the gemstones for jewelry because of their brilliance. They can only be scratched by another diamond.

They are valued by their **cut**, **color**, **carat** and **clarity**.

**Cut**  
 The most common cut is known as the "brilliant." This has 58 facets or surfaces and the light reflected in the surfaces splits into the colors of the rainbow.

**Color**  
 Most diamonds contain some color and the most common are shades of yellow or blue. A colorless diamond is both rare and expensive.

**Carat**  
 A carat is a measurement of weight. 142 carats make one ounce. A diamond that weighs a full carat is worth more than one that weighs slightly less.

**Clarity**  
 A completely clear diamond is said to be flawless but that is rare and most diamonds have spots or bubbles.

Find the two identical diamonds.

Standards Link: Visual Discrimination: Identify similarities and differences in common objects.