



## **HRVHS** teacher creates outside classroom

Hood River Valley High School English teacher Nan Noteboom has created a "COVID-safer" learning environment for students by moving her classroom outside.

Last spring, her classroom was moved to the portables, and this spring, as district staff began to plan for the return of school, she replaced all of her tables — which were too close together — with desks that could be separated. "I had gotten the tables off the discard pile anyway, so I had them set up south of the portables building, near the track; they stay outside all the time," she said. Using a portable whiteboard and a tripod for her computer so she can livestream or use Google Classroom to project lessons, she takes turns using the outdoor classroom with fellow English teacher Hunter Scholtz. She also created a courtyard area for kids to use,



putting out plants, bird feeders, a bird bath and a squirrel feeder. "There's plenty of nature as well — the FFA lamb regularly chimes in on our class discussions," Noteboom said, and Mount Hood is also visible.

Pictured above are Mia Rivera, Jacqueline Elias, Adriana Trejo, and Yearbook Editor Sophia Kaden; and Noteboom teaching fifth period Writing 122 to seniors in the outside classroom space. **Photos courtesy of Nan Noteboom** 



Liliana Tokstad

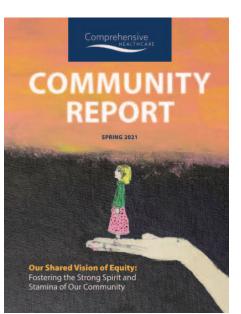
## Wordsearch pro

Columbia Gorge News' young reader of the week is Liliana Tokstad, 7, of Hood River. Liliana likes the wordsearch on the weekly Kid Scoop page, B1. She also is a frequent shopper of the ads that run in the paper, circling her favorite items.

Columbia Gorge News has weekly content for children, including Kid Scoop, that provides age-appropriate interactive and engaging activities to sharpen educational skills at school and at home. The feature provides activities that include educational links such as language arts, letter sequencing, spelling and skim and scan reading skills.

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Marti's winning art design. Contributed photo

Lola Marti, 12, White Salmon, won \$5,000 for her classroom at Wallace and Priscilla Stevenson Intermediate School. Photo by Chelsea Marr

## **White Salmon** sixth grader takes first in contest

Lola Marti, 12, a sixth grader at Wallace and Priscilla Stevenson Intermediate School, White Salmon, earned \$5,000 for her classroom after winning first prize in a creative contest highlighting Suicide Prevention

She entered the contest at the suggestion of her art teacher, Patricia Carpenter. The Comprehensive Healthcare contest (www.comphc.org) was open to all students in grades sixth through ninth, encouraging conversations about mental health, according to a press release. The contest invited a creative art or essay that expresses what suicide prevention and mental health mean to them.

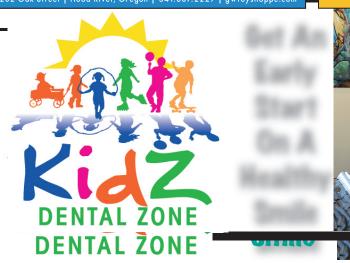
Marti's creative art cover won the grand prize of \$5,000 for her classroom, taught by Laura Meyer at Wallace and Priscilla Stevenson Intermediate

"This is what I think about when I think about the suicide program," Marti said when asked how she came up with the art design. She said she was "really happy and surprised" when she learned she'd won.









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