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Great Neck South, Sachem North win Envirothon

May 3, 2016 By Michael R. Ebert michael.ebert@newsday.com



The team from Great Neck South High School took first place among Nassau County teams in the 2016 Long Island Regional Envirothon. From left, envirothon coordinator Sharon Frost, students Angelina Wang, Allan Lee, Angela Chi, Ann Zhang and Katelyn Chang, and Corey Humphrey, district manager of the Nassau County Soil & Water Conservation District. (Credit: Long Island Regional Envirothon)

Teams from Great Neck South High School and Sachem North High School in Lake Ronkonkoma took first-place honors in Nassau and Suffolk counties, respectively, at the 2016 Long Island Regional Envirothon.

The winning squads advance to the state competition, to be held May 25-26 in upstate Geneva.

The 18th annual regional contest challenged five-person teams to take written exams and engage in outdoor challenges in aquatics, forestry, soils and wildlife. The students also gave oral presentations on a predetermined topic; this year's subject was invasive species.

The Envirothon drew nearly 40 teams to the Usdan Center for the Creative and Performing Arts in Wheatley Heights last month.

"This is a great opportunity for young environmental stewards to learn about local ecology and

what they can do to protect and preserve their natural resources,” said Corey Humphrey, district manager for the Suffolk County Soil & Water Conservation District, which coordinated the event with Nassau County’s district.

Students rotated among subject stations and answered questions as a team, with each test made up of 25 multiple-choice questions, competition officials said. Many questions were hands-on and involved the use of equipment, maps and audiovisual devices.

Great Neck South’s team members were Katelyn Chang, Angela Chi, Allan Lee, Angelina Wang and Ann Zhang. Sachem North’s team members were Emily Gelardi, Erin Maryzek, Jack McGlinchey, Kaelyn Roche and Emily Watson. All 10 students received a \$500 scholarship.



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Covanta, the event’s sponsor, donated \$10,000 to fund the competition and the scholarships.

GLEN HEAD

LI Math Fair

Students from the North Shore school district led the way with 20 gold medals — the most of any school system — in the 2016 Al Kalfus Long Island Math Fair at Hofstra University.

The fair, sponsored by the Nassau and Suffolk math teachers associations, required pupils in grades 7-12 to submit an essay on any math topic and give a 15-minute presentation.

Other top-performing districts and their gold medal totals were: Herricks and Syosset, 15 each; Roslyn, 14; Port Washington, 10; and Jericho, six.

COUNTYWIDE

History Day

Twenty-three Nassau County students won first place in various categories last month at New

York State History Day in Cooperstown.

Participants researched historical topics of their choice through libraries, archives, museums and interviews. This year's topics ranged from the Louisiana Purchase to the Cuban missile crisis. Students present their work in original papers, websites, exhibits, performances and documentaries. Those materials are then evaluated by educators and professional historians.

First-place winners were: Anya Chabria, Willets Road Elementary School, Roslyn Heights; Jonny Miller, Rachel Miller and Gabby Nakkab, all of Woodmere Middle School; Selina Chiang, Alison Chou, Grace Kim, Maggie Lau and Emily Wei, all of Herricks Middle School; and Sabreen Bhuiya, Patrice Calancie, Alan Chen, Esme Chen, Mirren Galway, Sandhya Ganeasan, Clare Kang, Rachel Kim, Melissa Lau, Felisha Ma, Siddhi Nadkarni, Natasha Rowzani, Justin Senzer, Vanessa Sun, Whitney Tam, Ashley Wong and Ania Zolyniak, all of Herricks High School.

ISLANDWIDE

Merit scholarships

Seven Long Island students were among more than 1,000 high school seniors nationwide named recipients of corporate-sponsored scholarships by the National Merit Scholarship Corp. The scholarships range from single payments of up to \$5,000 to annual stipends of up to \$10,000 a year that are renewable for up to four years of undergraduate study.

Recipients were: Cassandra Grello, Half Hollow Hills High School East, Dix Hills; Alexis D'Alessandro and Tiffany Kim, Half Hollow Hills High School West, Dix Hills; Vikram Krishnamoorthy, Herricks High School; Eric Kilgore, Earl L. Vandermeulen High School, Port Jefferson; Eleni Aneziris, Ward Melville High School, East Setauket; and Lauren Bednor, Wantagh High School.

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