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thinks LI's girls' lacrosse teams can win it all.

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NOTEBOOK

Proving their nature knowledge

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By MARY ELLEN PEREIRA

Teams of high school students competed in the Long Island Envirothon April 20 at St. John's University's Oakdale Campus. Sponsored by the Suffolk County Soil and Water Conservation District, students answered questions on such topics as aquatics, forestry, soils, wildlife and natural resources.

Farmingdale High School won for Nassau County, and the Suffolk County champs were from Rocky Point High School. Each student received a Canon Camera and a \$500 scholarship, and the schools won a Canon digital camera and a first-place plaque.

The Farmingdale team, coached by advisers Lorie Sheinwald and Patti Ziegler, was made up of Shawn Billerman, Michelle Dubuke, Christine Ellman, Yuri Hanada and Christine Hickey. Rocky Point's team, led by adviser Joe Gabrinowitz, included Mike Baptista, Ian Czekala, Jesse Iadanza, Matt Kershis and Laken Vitale.

BALDWIN


Different spin on classic tale

Third- through fifth-grade actors in the after-school Theater Club at Plaza Elementary School in Baldwin recently presented "Ann-e," their own version of the classic tale of an orphan girl who finds the good life.

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Clarke team named mock trial champs

A team of students from W. Tresper Clarke High School in [Westbury](#) won the Nassau County Championship in the [New York State Bar Association's Mock Trial Tournament](#) by defeating the team from the Hebrew Academy of the Five Towns and Rockaway before the Hon. Peter Skelos of the Appellate Division. On the team are: Snigdha Chadha, Corey Fanelli, Lena Herdoon, Alexandra Klein, George Michel and Chelsea Scott. The contest fosters trial techniques such as open and closing arguments; direct and cross examination; and how to use rules of evidence to make objections.

EAST ROCKAWAY

High schoolers hear about gang life. Representatives of the Nassau County Police Department visited the students at East Rockaway High School to discuss gang awareness. The officers explained the consequences of making bad choices.

LONG BEACH

Students display their talent for fund-raising. A student talent show at East Elementary School in [Long Beach](#), featuring dancers, singers and musicians, raised about \$3,400. Money will be used to send 15 financially disadvantaged children in the area to summer camp.

LYNBROOK

Third-graders meet a civil rights activist. Joseph McNeil, one of four black students who in 1960 initiated the sit-ins at a lunch counter at Woolworth's in [North Carolina](#), visited the third-graders at Marion Street Elementary School in Lynbrook. He talked about his experience and answered questions.

MERRICK

Art, inspiration through imitation. Students in Suzanne Hoffman and Margaret Raadsen-Coviello's art classes at Birch Elementary School in Merrick who studied the works of African-American artists were inspired to create their own works of art. Their work is on display in the school's hallways.

NORTH MERRICK

Technology offers collaborative learning. Videoconferencing is being used throughout the North Merrick school



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district to provide virtual field trips and collaborative learning opportunities. Students at Old Mill Road Elementary School assisted a disaster team during a simulated hurricane. At Camp Avenue Elementary School, students toured the Museum of Television and Radio in [Los Angeles](#).

UNIONDALE

Fourth-graders

dig archaeology

Archaeology students from Hofstra University recently visited the fourth-graders at Northern Parkway Elementary School in Uniondale. They discussed what archaeologists do and displayed the tools and equipment they use.

WESTBURY

Space Day is an adventure in flight

The students at Westbury Friends School explored the advancements of flight at Space Day recently. Exhibits included a simulator of the Wright Brothers plane; a mock-up of the space shuttle cockpit; and many other hands-on experiments involving. Technology teacher Caryn Meirs received a grant from [NASA](#) for a pilot program on the Remote Sensing of Long Island's Grasslands. This allows students to collaborate on real-world problems with other students and top scientists across the country.

WEST HEMPSTEAD

Learning about

'things that fly'

Students from George Washington and Cornwell Avenue elementary schools gathered at West Hempstead High School for [Earth Day](#), sponsored by the high school's Environmental Club. The children participated in experiments and activities to the theme "Things That Fly." They made bird feeders and learned about the anatomy of insects.

COUNTYWIDE

Food baskets

for Purim

Elementary school students from Solomon Schechter Day School of Nassau County in [Jericho](#) collected food and toiletry items. The children assembled and donated baskets for the Purim holiday to the Interfaith Nutritional Network.

Care packages

for [Passover](#)

Students at the Hebrew Academy of the Five Towns and Rockaway Middle School collected about 4,000 pounds of food. The care packages for Passover were donated to Island Harvest.

ISLANDWIDE

Corporate-sponsored merit winners

The National Merit Scholarship Corp. announced 1,070 high school seniors awarded corporate-sponsored merit scholarships. Of the 48 from New York, nine are from Long Island. The winners are: Daniel Braman, Paul D. Schreiber High School, Port Washington, from the McGraw-Hill Cos.; Alice Cheung, Harborfields High School, Greenlawn, from Taylor Publishing Co.; Joshua Fuhrmann, Jericho High School, from JPMorgan Chase; Albert Li, Huntington High School, from [Newsday Inc.](#); Iain McLeod, Hauppauge High School, from Northrop Grumman; Eric Paniagua, Massapequa High School, from Pfizer Inc.; Michael Small, Great Neck South High School, from MetLife Foundation; Chase Steinlauf, Portledge School, Locust Valley, from Scripps Howard Foundation; and Angela Yang, Jericho High School, from JPMorgan Chase.

Corporate-sponsored merit scholarships vary in amounts and most are renewable for up to four years of undergraduate study at an accredited U.S. college or university. Winners are chosen from the 15,000 National Merit Scholarship finalists.

Walt Whitman Suffolk champs

Walt Whitman High School, South Huntington, beat Half Hollow Hills High School West, [Dix Hills](#), to become the Suffolk champs in "The Long Island Challenge" academic competition. Jericho and [Freeport](#) high schools vie for the Nassau County championship on Sunday, June 5.

Teams from four local high schools are competing for \$20,000 in prizes. The show appears at 6:30 and 9:30 p.m. Sundays on News 12 Long Island. The program, in its eighth season, is produced by [Cablevision](#) with Newsday and News 12.

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