

Fundraiser OKs registration fee waivers

By Patricia Daddona (mailto:daddona@pbn.com)
PBN Staff Writer
Twitter: @pdaddona (<http://twitter.com/pdaddona>)

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NEWPORT – The third annual Elliot Kaminitz Father’s Day Ride, a major fundraiser for Bike Newport, will allow registration fee waivers for the first time this year at the June 21 event.

The ride day coincides with Father’s Day as well as the Summer Solstice.

“Everyone who wants to ride will ride,” said Dawn Euer, board chairperson for Bike Newport. “The Board has made the commitment that the Father’s Day Ride is an event for the entire community. We want to give more families and individuals of all ages and abilities the chance to participate in this celebration of healthy activity and safer streets.”

Organizers “feel pretty certain” that people will still support programming financially, Euer said.

Bike Newport is a local advocacy group that works to improve and encourage bicycling with an eye to community health and well-being, while raising awareness of the additional benefits that biking brings to environment, economy, and historic preservation.

The event honors Dr. Elliot Kaminitz, a local dentist who championed bicycle safety. After he was killed while on his bike in 2012, his family channeled their grief into making the roads safer for other bicyclists.

“We know Elliot would be proud of us and of Newport for turning our tragedy into progress,” Renee Kaminiz, Elliot’s wife, said.

She is on the nonprofit’s board and daughter Ilicia is honorary chairperson for the annual ride.

Last year, more than 300 participants biked, hiked and rolled their way around Fort Adams State Park and the Ocean Loop at the second annual ride.

Besides the fee waiver option on the registration form, participants can make a donation or sponsor other riders.

The ride runs from 8 a.m. to noon. All ages and abilities can ride or walk.

Registration in advance can be made online at www.fathersdayride.org (<http://www.fathersdayride.org>). For more information, contact Bike Newport at info@bikenewportri.org (<mailto:info@bikenewportri.org>) or call 401-619-4900.