

# Levittown's Historic Bike Tour Cycles Town's History

**T**hey came on bicycles, helmeted and ready to learn more about a much-loved town. In number, riders totaled 34 and they gathered recently to tour Levittown's north and south sides on bikes. The weather was perfect, the riders and docents were excited and the tour guides, charged with the responsibility of keeping everyone safe and inline, were a bit apprehensive until the motorcycle police from the Nassau County Police Department 8th Precinct arrived to escort the tour.

After the riders took off, docents proceeded to their locations where they were engaged to explain the significant historical importance of the 22 locations scheduled for visits. With pride in their community evident and curiosity in seeing so many bicyclists travel down their street, local residents who spotted the ensemble waved and greeted them as they proceeded through the streets destined for the final site at the Levittown Historical Society Museum located in the Levittown Memorial Education Center on Abbey Lane in Levittown.

Comments and thank you notes from participants and tour guides after the ride summed up the success of the event. Bike Ride Committee Chairperson Frank McKenna said "... yesterday's bike tour truly turned out to be a great success."

McKenna's appraisal was echoed by a number of riders and tour guides as well. "I had a lovely time," wrote Janet Imbrogno, a rider from Wantagh. "The tour leader and all the speakers and volunteers did an amazing job. Everything was very well done and run so professionally. It was a fun day and I learned a lot."

Lilliana Bascetta, who grew up in Levittown and now resides in Valley Stream, mobilized her group of coworkers from Sewanhaka High School where she teaches and who bike together. Her daughter and son-in-law, Brittany and Andrew Piddoubny who live in Levittown, rode with the group. Bascetta wrote, "I had a wonderful time,

enjoyed showing my daughter and son-in-law and coworkers the neighborhood."

"It was great. I'll do the full ride next year!" wrote John Reagan of Islip, who is part of the Sewanhaka Bike group along with Michael Gregori, who also rode.

As of now, a ride is not scheduled



This year's Levittown Historic bike tour consisted of 34 cyclists. Tour leader Scott Diamond is pictured fourth from right in a blue shirt  
(Photo courtesy of the office of Senator Kevin Thomas)

for next year, but several riders expressed an interest in riding again. Levittown Special Events is the organization that has planned and organized Levittown's anniversary celebrations since 2008. Chairperson Louise Cassano said the Anniversary Planning Committee at a future meeting and depending on volunteer

support will determine if that will take place.

Tour guide Susan Maher of Levittown wrote "Thank you. I had a lot of fun and everyone was great." And tour leader Scott Diamond, who planned and researched the specifics of the route taken, exhibited great pride in his accomplishments as he

settled down after months of planning outside the Levittown Historical Museum after the ride was completed.

Levittown will officially celebrate its 75th anniversary in 2022, marking the date from the time the first residents inhabited the homes in 1948. Plans for the event began in 2017 with a few events taking place that year and in 2018 and part of 2019. The COVID-19 pandemic had curtailed other events planned for the rest of 2019 and through this year.

The anniversary celebration will continue this year with a Howl-O-Ween Pet and Partners Costume Parade on Saturday, Oct. 30 from noon to 3 p.m. at the Bluegrass Lane Pool and Park. Check out Levittown Special Events Facebook page at [www.facebook.com/LevittownSpecialEvents/](http://www.facebook.com/LevittownSpecialEvents/) or email [levittown70@yahoo.com](mailto:levittown70@yahoo.com) for information on additional events.

—Submitted by Levittown Special Events

## VFW Post 9592 Of Levittown And Island Trees Announces The Following VFW Youth Scholarship Programs.

### Patriot's Pen Essay Contest

- Open to all middle school students in the 6th, 7th and 8th Grades
- Public, private, parochial or home school
- Students must draft a 300-400-word typewritten essay, expressing their views based on a patriotic theme chosen by the VFW Commander-in-Chief
- This year's theme is "How Can I be a Good American"
- Students must submit their essay and 2021-22 Patriot's Pen Entry Form to their nearest local Veterans of Foreign Wars Post by Oct. 31
- Awards are given out on the post, district, department (state) and national level.
- The First-Place award on the National Level for the Patriot's Pen Contest is \$5,000 Scholarship
- Other awards are given to the National 2nd place through 53rd place winners

- Students interested in participating should visit [www.vfw.org](http://www.vfw.org) and click on the "Community" tab followed by the "Youth and Education" tab which will then bring you the "Youth Scholarship" tab. Under the "Youth Scholarship" tab the student will find the current Patriot's Pen 2021-22 Entry Form.
- Entry Forms can also be found by visiting VFW Post 9592's Webpage at [www.vfw9592.org](http://www.vfw9592.org). Look for the link on the homepage.
- Please follow the instructions on the entry form along with additional eligibility requirements and rules.
- All entries must be received by your local VFW Post by Oct. 31
- **Voice Of Democracy Audio/Essay Contest**
- Open to all high school students in the 9th, 10th

- 11th and 12th grades
- Public, private, parochial or home school
- Students are provided a unique opportunity to express themselves in regards to a patriotic-themed recorded essay.
- This year's theme is "America-Where do we go from here?"
- Students are required to complete a 3-5-minute recording of their essay and submit it on a flash drive or by a shareable file via e-mail to their local VFW Post by Oct. 31
- Students must also submit their typewritten essay and contest entry form along with their recording.
- Awards are given out on the post, district, department (state) and national level.
- The First-Award on the national Level for the Voice of Democracy contest is a \$30,000 Scholarship and

- an all-expense paid trip to Washington, DC
- Other scholarships on the national level range from \$1,000-\$16,000
- Students interested in participating should visit [www.vfw.org](http://www.vfw.org) and click on the "Community" tab followed by the "Youth and Education" tab which will then bring you the "Youth Scholarship" tab. Under the "Youth Scholarship" tab the student will find the current Voice of Democracy 2021-22 entry form along with additional eligibility requirements and rules.
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— Submitted by the VFW Post 9592 Of Levittown And Island Trees

