

OUTBOUND NEWS

Wisconsin's LGBT News Source

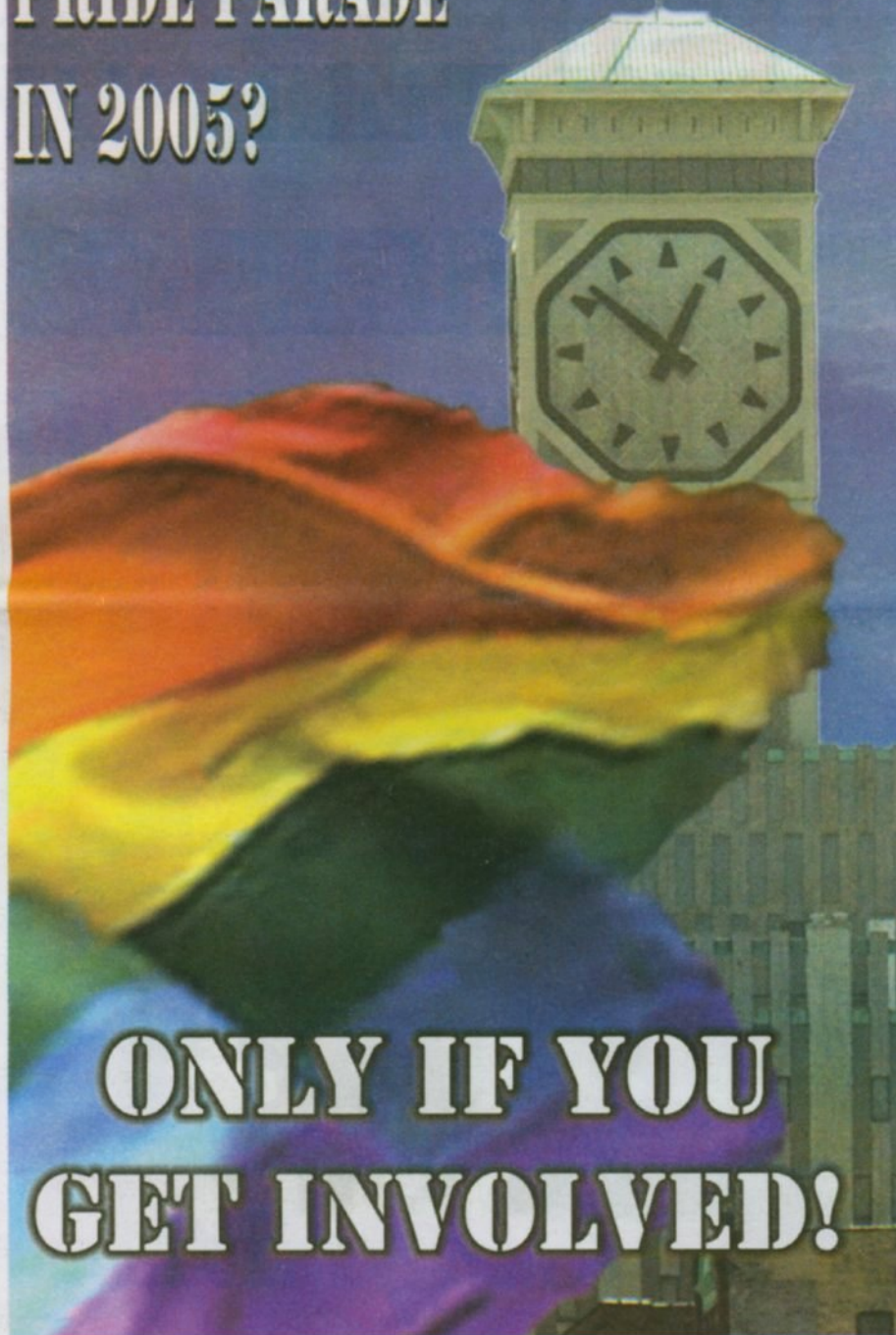
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WILL THERE BE A MILWAUKEE PRIDE PARADE

IN 2005?



A meeting of about a dozen Milwaukee business owners was held on March 23, 2005 at which a decision was made to put on a Pride Parade during the weekend of PrideFest celebration. The parade is not affiliated with the PrideFest organization. PrideFest dropped the parade last year after securing the parade on S. 2nd Street. After the decision was made by PrideFest not to have a Pride Parade in 2005 a group of businesses decided to put on the parade to enhance the PrideFest celebration.

James Kuchta of Outbound Midwest Publications, Inc. has secured a parade route for Sunday, June 12. The staging area will be in the parking lots next to Out N About provided by Rockwell International. The parade route will start on S. 1st Street at Greenfield Ave., proceed west to S. 2nd Street, north on S. 2nd Street and ending at Seeboth. Kuchta stated, "I tried to get a route that would encompass as many of the Bars as possible." The original route proposed by Kuchta was to start on First Street toward Lapham as a wraparound to 2nd Street, proceed north on 2nd Street to Pittsburgh and crossing 1st Street on to Barclay and ending on South Water Street. The City of Milwaukee would not allow closing 1st Street and, therefore, offered the same route which they had approved for PrideFest last year on May 6, 2004.

PrideFest cancelled the parade last year at the last moment, for reasons — unclear. The City had even made detailed provisions for barricades and temporary "No Parking" signs to be delivered for use along the route. If we do the same, the City warned, they will be reluctant to be as cooperative in the future as they were this year. We just want to let everyone know that they need to "Get Involved" to make this event a success in 2005! "We need volunteers and especially, donations."

The cost of the parade is estimated at \$10,000: \$3000 for the Parade Permit; \$6000 for Insurance; \$1000 For Misc. Expenses. The G/L Community Trust Fund which is a non-profit 501C3 organization is acting as the fiscal agent for this year. Si Smits, founder of the G/L Community Trust Fund, agreed to monitor the funds and provide a means for donations to be tax deductible. This also assures the LGBT Community that private businesses are not profiting from funds being raised for the Parade. To donate to the Milwaukee Pride Parade Fund, send check or money order payable to G/L Community Trust Fund Parade Account and mail to C/O Outbound Midwest Publications, Inc., POB 1461, Brookfield, WI 53008-1461. Also, you can donate by attending benefits at various LGBT businesses as they are announced or by purchasing a "Pride Flag" donor card at participating bars.

With less than two month before Pride Weekend we need to raise the money quickly. The Bars are doing their part to help raise the money. Miller Brands has also agreed to help with a financial contribution. We need to quickly raise \$6,000 dollars in order for the Milwaukee Pride Parade to go on. The Pride Parade Committee is asking the LGBT Community to stand united with the bars to keep the Milwaukee Pride Parade a tradition.

A website has been established with information about the parade and how to get involved. The website is www.prideparademke.com

The theme of the 2005 Pride Parade is "Laverne & Shirley" with the theme song of "Making Our Dreams Come True." Don't let the parade go by the wayside. Let's all stand together for one common goal—"making Milwaukee's Pride Parade a tradition." So **GET INVOLVED NOW!**

PrideFest Announces Mainstage Entertainment



Milwaukee, WI - Apr 05, 2005 PrideFest 2005 will host one of the best Pride entertainment lineups in the nation, featuring Taylor Dayne, RuPaul, Jason Stuart, Sophie B. Hawkins, Jade Esteban Estrada and Pamela Means among many other performers. PrideFest will take place at Milwaukee's Summerfest grounds for its ninth consecutive year along the shores of Lake Michigan in downtown Milwaukee on Saturday, June 11th and Sunday, June 12th.

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