

## **Community Parade Sets Theme, Accepts Entries**

**Milford, Delaware-** “Ready, set, go! **The 2025 Milford Community Parade theme is - It’s Game Time!**”, exclaimed 2025 Chairperson, Charles Gray. “The annual event that celebrates costumes, music, and fun wants to put participants to the challenge. The challenge to incorporate games like board games, video games and family games into their floats, music choices, and costumes.” The parade chooses a different theme annually to keep the presentations creative and full of mystery. “Let’s think monopoly, dominoes, frogger, and uno. We would love to see creative floats and costume choices highlighting favorite and/or popular way back and recent games,” stated Gaye Hamilton, Parade Committee Secretary.

The parade began in 1938 as a Halloween parade and through the years has evolved into a community event of creative themes and costumes, popular among many generations as a celebration of neighbors, families and friends. Committee Treasurer, Carmen Kemper, remarked “it has become a tradition for organizations, marching bands, fire companies and businesses to participate while sharing the group experience leading up to the parade.”

On average, the Parade plays host to an average of 10 marching bands and fire companies and more than 40 organizational and business floats, averaging about 100 entries. Businesses in and around Milford sponsor the event to defray costs like trophies, live streaming, portable restrooms and more. “It is amazing and heartfelt joy to see Walnut Street lined with families, celebrations on porches of 3 generational family members, participating businesses and organizations having fun together,” commented Chairman of the Board, and active officer since 1984, Jim Gray. Mr. Gray was requested to lead the Committee by then Mayor Joseph Rogers to revive the parade. With the help of family and friends the parade has thrived since then.

Entries have grown to more than 2000 participants and up to another 5000 spectators. Locations along the parade route have embraced the parade and provide space for reviewing stands and food vendors. The City of Milford, and its departments have provided continuous support annually through logistical and spectator management resources. “We are very grateful for the support the City of Milford provides annually. Together, a fun, family-friendly event brings thousands to Walnut Street in Milford. And the 1.7 mile parade route provides plenty of room for spectators to enjoy it all,” mentioned Charles Gray, Parade Chairperson. “With annual sponsors such as Burris Logistics, Wilson’s Auction Sales, Sunbelt Rentals, Downes Insurance Associates, Milford Lions Club and more, our Delmarvelous marching bands and entries are announced along the route at three reviewing stands and live streamed by TVDelmarva, Digital Channel 14.”

Funds for this community event are raised through sponsorships and fundraisers. Fundraisers include an annual quarter auction and contributions from the community. The parade website provides links for entry sign-up, sponsorship information, and general parade information including rules, route and more. Visit [www.milfordparade.com](http://www.milfordparade.com) today and put it on your calendar for this upcoming Fall, Wednesday, October 15, 2025, step off at 6:30pm.