

# Editorial: A blemish on an otherwise beautiful parade

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@media (max-width: 767.98px){ .d-mobile-block { display: block !important; } }

After a year of isolation, Ronan offered up a refreshing, well attended public event last Wednesday evening with its St. Patrick's Day parade.

The weather was gorgeous. The floats were fun and creative. The crowd was jovial and appreciative. There were kids on floats and kids on horses, others walking dogs or waving from the sidewalks. Kids in classic cars.

It was

a terrific scene

, with one glaring exception.

The parade's lone political entry, thankfully near the end of the procession, carried an angry and vulgar message that had no place at such an event with so many children in attendance. It was a real-life version of internet trolling, a middle finger extended to everyone, with no intent other than to provoke.

Soon after, expressions of outrage began to pop up on social media. A few defenders of the offensive entry attempted to distill the controversy down to merely an example of freedom of speech, completely disregarding any sense of decency or community respect.

The Ronan Area Chamber of Commerce released a statement saying that while they had promoted the event, the chamber was not a sponsor and did not "support or condone negative political advertising at any event."

The Ronan Fire Department made it clear that the generic fire department flag on the political float, which directly preceded the department's vehicles during the parade, was not a local flag and the department "is a non-political organization and had no involvement with the parade float."

A member of the Ronan Irish Community — a group of volunteers who organized the event — explained that no one within the group supported the float and they were just as angry about the distasteful distraction as everyone else. There simply were not enough volunteers to monitor each entry, and no one thought that would be necessary.

Many have been asking how this could happen and are looking for someone among the local government, the business community or the event's sponsors to blame. That ire should be reserved exclusively for the individuals who thought the political entry was in any way appropriate. There can't be very many examples, if any, of entries being turned away at past parades within any of our local communities. Policing entries shouldn't be a requirement.

These folks likely knew they were crossing a line and didn't care. It was selfish and entirely disrespectful. We can't help but wonder whether that middle finger also was being waved at the members of the Mission Valley Honor Guard, veterans and community elders who led the evening's procession. There's no justification for such behavior.

All negativity aside, it really was a fantastic event on a beautiful evening. The sponsors should be proud of the best of it and strive for more of the same in the future.

And in an age when we're all constantly bombarded by national political outrage, it would be nice to be able to attend a parade, a county fair, a rodeo, etc., without the political backdrop. Can we have a few hours without the politics once in a while?

And if that's simply not possible, we offer two pieces of advice to make such displays more palatable — consider keeping it local, and try harder to be for something rather than always angrily against.

— *Editor Scot Heisel*

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## Recent Headlines

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!function()("use strict";function r(t){return(r="function"==typeof Symbol&&"symbol"==typeof Symbol.iterator?function(t){return typeof t}:function(t){return t&&"function"==typeof
Symbol&&t.constructor==Symbol&&!=Symbol.prototype?"symbol":typeof t})(t)}function i(t,e){for(var n=0;n<e.length;n++){var a=e[n];a.enumerable=a.enumerable||!1,a.configurable=!0,"value"in a&&
(a.writable=!0),Object.defineProperty(t,a.key,a)}}function u(t,e,n){return e in t?Object.defineProperty(t,e,{value:n,enumerable:!0,configurable:!0,writable:!0}):t[e]=n,t}function $({e}:{for(var t=1;t<arguments.length;t++)}{var
n=null!=arguments[t]?arguments[t]:{};a=Object.keys(n);function"==typeof Object.getOwnPropertySymbols&&(a=a.concat(Object.getOwnPropertySymbols(n).filter(function(t){return
Object.getOwnPropertyDescriptor(n,t).enumerable}))),a.forEach(function(t){u(e,t,n[t])})}})function h(t,e){return function(t){if(Array.isArray(t))return t}(t)||function(t,e){var n=[],a=!1,i=void 0;try{for(var
o,c=t[Symbol.iterator]():!(a=(o=c.next()).done)&&(n.push(o.value),!e||n.length==e);a!=0);}catch(t){r=!0,i=t}finally{try{a||null==c.return||c.return()}finally{if(r)throw i}}return n}(t,e)||function(){throw new TypeError("Invalid
attempt to destructure non-iterable instance")}})function d(t){return function(t){if(Array.isArray(t)){for(var e=0,n=new Array(t.length);e<t.length;e++)n[e]=t[e];return n}}(t)||function(t){if(Symbol.iterator in Object(t)||"[object
Arguments]"==Object.prototype.toString.call(t))return Array.from(t)(t)||function(){throw new TypeError("Invalid attempt to spread non-iterable instance")}}})var t=function(){},e={},n={},a=null,o=
{mark:t,measure:t};try{"undefined"!=typeof window&&(e=window),"undefined"!=typeof document&&(n=document),"undefined"!=typeof MutationObserver&&(a=MutationObserver),"undefined"!=typeof performance&&
(o=performance)catch(t){var c=(e.navigator||{}).userAgent,s:void 0==c?"":c,v=e,b=n,l=a,f=o,m=!!v.document,p=!!b.documentElement&&!b.head&&"function"==typeof b.addEventListener&&"function"==typeof
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(Solid|Regular|Light|Duotone|Brands|Free|Pro|Kit).*/i,F={900:"fas",400:"far",normal:"far",300:"fal"},l=[1,2,3,4,5,6,7,8,9,10],T=l.concat([11,12,13,14,15,16,17,18,19,20]),_=["class","data-prefix","data-icon","data-fa-
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source","keepOriginalSource"],["data-measure-performance","measurePerformance"],["data-show-missing-icons","showMissingIcons"]];D.push(["data-auto-fetch-svg","autoFetchSvg"],["data-fetch-svg-
from","fetchSvgFrom"],["data-fetch-uploaded-svg-from","fetchUploadedSvgFrom"]);D.forEach(function(t){var e,n=h(t,2),a=n[0],r=n[1],i=""==(e=function(t){var e=b.querySelector("script["+t+"]"));if(e) return
e.getAttribute(t)}(a))||"false"!=e&&("true"==e||e);null!=i&&(Y[r]=i)})var V=
{familyPrefix:y,replacementClass:w,autoReplaceSvg:10,autoAddCss:10,autoA11y:10,searchPseudoElements:1,observeMutations:1,mutateApproach:"async",keepOriginalSource:1,measurePerformance:1,showMissing
(q.observeMutations=1);var W=VjsV.*\js.*;X="Manually set config.fetchSvgFrom = "URL" or use <script data-fetch-svg-from="URL" ...> to explicitly
configure.";if(q.autoFetchSvg&&!q.fetchSvgFrom&&b&&b.currentScript){var G=b.currentScript.getAttribute("src");-1<G.search(W)&&E||console.info("Font Awesome SVG Auto-fetching URL has been determined using
document.currentScript. This features is not supported in any version of Internet Explorer. ".concat(X),q.fetchSvgFrom=G.replace(W,"svgs")));if(q.fetchSvgFrom){var
K=b.createElement("a");K.href=q.fetchSvgFrom,q.fetchSvgFrom=K.href}!q.autoFetchSvg||q.fetchSvgFrom||E||(console.error("Disabling Font Awesome auto-fetching of SVG icons (it was enabled) because we could not
guess the correct URL to load them from. ".concat(X),q.autoFetchSvg!=1);var et=$({}),q:v.FontAwesomeConfig=et;var B=v||{};B[g]||(B[g]={}),B[g].styles||(B[g].styles={}),B[g].hooks||(B[g].hooks={}),B[g].shims||(B[g].shims={});var J=B[g],Q=[],Z=1;function nt(t){p&&(Z=setTimeout(t,0):Q.push(t))}p&&(Z=
(b.documentElement.doScroll?"/loaded|^c:/^loaded|^i|^c/.test(b.readyState))||b.addEventListener("DOMContentLoaded",function t(){b.removeEventListener("DOMContentLoaded",t),Z=1,Q.map(function(t){return
t})));var at,rt="pending",ot="fulfilled",ct="rejected",st=function(){},lt="undefined"!=typeof global&&void 0==global.process&&"function"==typeof global.process.emit,ft="undefined"==typeof setImmediate?
setTimeout:setImmediate,ut=[];function dt(){for(var t=0;t<ut.length;t++)ut[t][0](ut[t][1]);at=!(ut[0])}function mt(t,e){ut.push([t,e]),at||(at=0,ft(dt,0))}function ht(t){var
e=t.owner,n=e._state,a=e._data,r=t[n],i=t.then;if("function"==typeof r){n=ot;try{a=r(a)}catch(t){pt(t)}pt(i,a)||((n==ot&&t&&bt(i,a)),n==ct&&bt(i,a))}function pt(e,n){var a;try{if(e==n)throw new TypeError("A promises callback
cannot return that same promise.");}if(n&&"function"==typeof n){var t=n.then;if("function"==typeof t){return t.call(n,function(t){a||((a=!0,n==t)?vt(e,t):gt(e,t)),function(t){a||(a=!0,et(e,t))},!0)}catch(t){return
a||bt(e,t),!0}return!1}}function gt(t,e){!t==e&&pt(t,e)||vt(t,e)}function vt(t,e){t._state==rt&&(t._state=it,t._data=e,mt(wt,t))}function bt(t,e){t._state==rt&&(t._state=it,t._data=e,mt(xt,t))}function yt(t)
{t._then=t._then.forEach(ht);function wt(t){t._state=ot,vt(t)}function xt(t){t._state=ct,vt(t)}function kt(t){t._handled=&&t&&global.process.emit("unhandledRejection",t._data,t)}function lt(t)
{global.process.emit("rejectionHandled",t)}function At(t){if("function"!=typeof t){var e=new Error("Promise resolver "+t+" is not a function");if(this instanceof At){At=1}throw new TypeError("Failed to construct 'Promise'-
Please use the 'new' operator, this object constructor cannot be called as a function.");}this._then=[],function(t,e){function n(t){bt(e,t)}try{t(function(t){gt(e,t),n)}catch(t){n(t)}}(t,this)}At.prototype=
{constructor:At,_state:rt,_then:null,_data:void 0,_handled:!1,then:function(t,e){var n={owner:this,then:new this.constructor(st),fulfilled:t,rejected:e};return!e&&!t||this._handled||
(this._handled=!0,this._state==ct&&t,mt(ht,n):this._then.push(n),n.then),catch:function(t){return this.then(null,t)}},At.all=function(c){if(!Array.isArray(c))throw new
TypeError("You must pass an array to Promise.all().");return new At(function(n,t){var a=[],r=0;function e(e){return r++,function(t){a[e]=t,-r||n(a)}}for(var i=0;i<c.length;i++)if(c[i]&&"function"==typeof i.then?
i.then(e(o),t):a[o]=r||n(a));},At.race=function(r){if(!Array.isArray(r))throw new TypeError("You must pass an array to Promise.race().");return new At(function(t,e){for(var n,a=0;a<r.length;a++)n=r[a]&&"function"==typeof
n.then?n.then(t,e):t(n)}),At.resolve=function(e){return e&&"object"==r(e)&&e.constructor==At?e:new At(function(t){t(e)}),At.reject=function(n){return new At(function(t,e){n(t)});var St="function"==typeof Promise?
Promise:At,Ct=A,Ot={size:16,x:0,y:0,rotate:0,flipX:!1,flipY:!1};function Mt(t){if(t&&p){var e=b.createElement("style");e.setAttribute("type","text/css"),e.innerHTML=t;for(var n=b.head.childNodes,a=null,r=n.length-1;-1<r,-1){var i=n[r],o=(i.tagName||"").toUpperCase();i.innerHTML=t;var
Nt="0123456789abcdefghijklmnopqrstuvwxyzABCDEFGHIJKLMNOPQRSTUVWXYZ";function Pt(){for(var t=12,e="";0<t--;){e+=Nt[Math.random()|0];return e}function Et(t){for(var e=[],n=(t||[]).length>>>0;n-;)e[n]=t[n];return e}function zt(t){return t.classList||t.getAttribute("class")||""}.split(" ").filter(function(t){return t})}function Lt(t,e){var n,a=e.split("-"),r=a[0],i=a.slice(1).join("-");return r!=t||"---"==i||(n=i,~H.indexOf(n))?null:i}function jt(t){return"".concat(t).replace(/&/g,"&").replace(/\"/g,""").replace(/\"/g,"#39;").replace(/</g,"&lt;").replace(/>/g,"&gt;")}function Rt(n){return Object.keys(n)}n}.reduce(function(t,e){return t+"".concat(e,"").concat(n[e],"")});function Ft(t){return t.size==Ot.size||t.x==Ot.x||t.y==Ot.y||t.rotate==Ot.rotate||t.flipX||t.flipY}function It(t){var
e=t.transform,n=t.containerWidth,a=t.iconWidth,r={transform:"translate(.concat(n/2," 256))"},i="translate(.concat(32*x, " .concat(32*y, " ))",o="scale(.concat(e.size/16*(e.flipX?-1:1), " .concat(e.size/16*(e.flipY?-1:1), " " ),c="rotate(.concat(e.rotate," 0")));return outer:r,inner:{transform:"".concat(i,"").concat(o,"").concat(c)},path:{transform:"translate(.concat(a/2*-1, " -256))"}},var Tt={x:0,y:0,width:"100%",height:"100%"},function
_ut(t){var e=1<arguments.length&&void 0==arguments[1];var arguments[1];return t.attributes&&t.attributes.fill||e}&&(t.attributes.fill="black"),t}function Ut(t){var
e=t.icons,n=e.main,a=e.mask,r=t.prefix,i=t.iconName,o=t.transform,c=t.symbol,s=t.title,l=t.titleLabel,d=t.extra,f=t.watchable,m=void 0==d&&d,h=a.found?a:n,p=h.width,g=h.height,v="fak"==r,b=v?"fa-w-
".concat(Math.ceil(p/g*16)),y=[et.replacementClass,i?"":.concat(et.familyPrefix,"-").concat(i,""),b].filter(function(t){return-1==t||u.classes.indexOf(t)}).filter(function(t){return"!=="!=t||!t}).concat(u.classes).join(" "),w={children:

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["window-maximize", "far", null], ["window-restore", "far", null], ["times-rectangle", null, "window-close"], ["window-close-o", "far", "window-close"], ["times-rectangle-o", "far", "window-close"], ["bandcamp", "fab", null], ["grav", "fab", null], ["etsy", "fab", null], ["imdb", "fab", null], ["ravelry", "fab", null], ["eercast", "fab", "sellcast"], ["snowflake-o", "far", "snowflake"], ["superpowers", "fab", null], ["wpexplorer", "fab", null], ["cab", null, "taxi"]]; return function(l) { try { l() } catch (e) { if (!l) throw e; } } (function() { var i = exports; if (typeof i === 'object') { if (i.hooks) { i.hooks.addShims ? i.hooks.addShims(i) : i.shims.push(apply(i, s)); } } })();