



SITE MENU:

HOME

[Home](#) > [Local News](#) > [Hundreds turn out to support war protester](#)

DAILY TRIBUNE NEWS



Email Print

Hundreds turn out to support war protester

By Christy Strawser

Daily Tribune Staff Writer

PUBLISHED: July 11, 2006

FERNDALE -- If police hoped to quiet Monday afternoons at Nine Mile and Woodward by arresting war protester Victor Kittila last week and charging him with disorderly conduct -- they failed.

Several hundred people clustered there Monday and filled every side of the intersection holding signs and banners protesting George W. Bush and the Iraq War.

Advertisement

Before the arrest, 20-30 protesters usually showed up.

"We're in support of fighting that arrest," said Phyllis Livermore of Birmingham. "It was outrageous."

Many said it was their first time at the anti-war event, which started four years ago and happens around 4:45-5:45 p.m. every Monday.

"In a way, this was a good thing," Livermore said. "This many people are never here."

Last Monday Kittila, 55, was arrested in front of his wife and their 13-year-old daughter and threatened with a Taser if he resisted. Police Chief Michael Kitchen said he was arrested for holding a sign that inspired drivers to honk their horns.

Ferndale city code says it's illegal to "incite people to sound their horn when not reasonably necessary."

Police said they had warned protesters about the signs several weeks ago because it disturbed other drivers on the busy thoroughfare. Nine Mile and Woodward is the hub of downtown Ferndale, an area with no homes, but many restaurants, bars and retail shops.

"They were warned a couple of weeks ago, they decided to test it, evidently," Kitchen said last week.

Protesters took a different view.

"I had to ask 'Is this America?'" said Mary Johnston of Farmington Hills.

Kittila said he had changed his sign to say 'Ferndale police say don't honk if you want Bush out' after the warning, but people still responded by honking. Kittila's wife had to pay \$500 bail to get him out of jail after his arrest; a court date has not been set.

Other News Links



TOP JOBS

NURSE MANAGER We are seeking a RN or LPN for this full position. Responsible for aspects ...

PROJECT MANAGER Wanted for a manufacturing company in Detroit. Growing company with new...

COMMERCIAL INSURANCE SPECIALIST GMAC Insurance is seeking a Commercial Insurance Speciali...

DEALERS WANTED Innovative Holmes County, Ohio storage barn manufacturer seeks individual...

[View all Top Jobs](#)

TOP AUTOS

PLYMOUTH VOLARE 1978 4 door, 13K original miles, exc. to mint condition, \$4300 810-629-852...

SKIDOO 2004 MXZ REV 800 HO studded stock 150 hp 1,200 miles \$4,250 248-521-5616

TOYOTA AVALON XLS 2003, loaded, moonroof, luxury Pkg. 6 CD changer. Super clean. 248-922-5...

JAGUAR X type 2002, 46k miles, still under warranty. Exc. condition. \$14,495/obo. 248-85...

[View all Top Autos](#)

But his arrest failed to deter a group of teens from Grosse Pointe who held up signs urging drivers to honk against the war.

"I'm not afraid," said Michael Fenton, 18, of Grosse Pointe. "No one told me specifically I could not hold this sign."

Kittila walked through the crowd, accepting pats on the back and meeting old friends, and he said that he was afraid for the people thumbing their noses at the law.

"I'm happy and surprised that this many people are here," he said while holding a sign that said 'no blood for oil'. "But we don't want to cause trouble. I think Ferndale supports us, they know what we're doing out here."

His words were born out by the number of thumbs-up signs, peace signs -- and honks -- drivers bestowed on protesters.



[Email This Story to a Friend](#)



[Printer Friendly Version](#)



TOP HOMES

WATERFORD RANCH
FSBO OPEN HOUSE
SHOWING Jan. 21 & 22,
1 p.m.- 5 p.m. Visit
www.hno.com ID#...

DAVISBURG, 2 bdrm, 1.5
bth, exc. condition. \$5000
Must Sell! 248-942-2019

LAPEER COUNTY 26.13
acres of rolling land
989-843-6078

ROCHESTER HILLS 3
bdrm, 2.5 baths,
\$158,000 248-652-9105

[View all Top Homes](#)



TOP RENTALS

WHITE LAKE 2 homes
both w/ 2 bdrm, 1 bath,
on lake w/ dock, \$650 &
\$700 + dep.
248-886-10...

Ferndale 3 bdrm., 1 bath,
new furnace & c/a,
appliances. Available
immediately. \$900.
248-...

PONTIAC 2 bdrm. newly
remodeled slab, fenced
yard w/ shed, 446 S.
Marshall \$700/mo. \$1400
...

WATERFORD
WATERFRONT
completely remodeled,
2/1, garage, \$900/mo.
248-681-8129

[View all Top Rentals](#)



TOP MERCHANDISE

MIXED SEASONED
Firewood \$70 per pickup
truck load W/ local
delivery (more than a
face cor...

DRUM LESSONS - WSU
music major Middle/High
School level. Drum kit,
marching band snare
dru...

[View all Top Merchandise](#)