

# VOICE

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**Benefit Concert for Hotline, Voice, Huron Alliance on June 7**

## Melanie Coming to Flint



Melanie will make her first Flint appearance on June 7 for the Hotline Center

## Coalition forming to fight draft

A statewide coalition against the reinstatement of the draft is being formed by many groups and individuals across Michigan. Public opposition, especially among young people is rapidly growing as the Congress gears up to bring the draft back within the coming year.

On May 10, the House Armed Services Committee, voted 35-4 to begin the registration of all 18 year olds in December. Rep. Robert Carr of Lansing was one of the four in opposition to the draft. The bill will now go to the full House for a vote.

The anti-draft coalition consists of the American Civil Liberties Union, the United Church of Christ, the American Friends Service Committee and a number of student and citizen groups. An intense petition and lobbying drive will begin to convince congresspersons and senators from Michigan that the draft is unnecessary and unwanted.

The move to bring back the draft has been quietly progressing as Vietnam-hawk holdovers in Congress seek to have a large pool of human bodies

from which to draw for any possible skirmish the United States may have to be involved in. Cold war rhetoric and the fear of a mostly-black volunteer army have fueled the drive to reinstate the draft.

Unfortunately, some former anti-war activists such as Rep. Paul McCloskey (R-Cal.) and Rep. Patricia Schroeder (D-Col.) have also called for some sort of forced service — military or non-military — by all young people.

Unlike past times when the draft existed, the present proposals would include both men and women and allow for no deferments or conscientious objectors. Canada, which has its own draft, will not be open to draft evaders this time around. Our neighbor to the north provided a home for U.S. draft evaders during the Vietnam War only because they believed that particular war was wrong.

Students wishing to organize anti-draft groups at their school or anyone wanting to get involved in this fight can contact the *Flint VOICE* at 742-1230.

The *Flint VOICE* is very pleased to announce that Melanie has agreed to perform in a benefit concert for the *VOICE*, the Hotline Center and the Huron Alliance on Thursday, June 7. The concert will take place in Whiting Auditorium at 8:00 p.m.

Melanie, one of the most creative singer/songwriters of the past decade, becomes the third such recording artist in as many years to come to the aid of the Hotline, Flint's alternative social action center. Harry Chapin and Don McLean have also performed in benefit concerts for the Hotline.

The Hotline Center has a yearly budget of \$30,000 that is raised entirely from people in the community (the Hotline receives no grants from any source). It costs over \$12,000 a year to publish the *Flint VOICE* with the advertising covering less than half of that cost. It is particularly difficult to raise enough funds to get through the summer. The success of the Melanie benefit concert is crucial to the Hotline and *VOICE* remaining solvent until fall.

Melanie, born "Melanie Safka," gained national attention after her performance at the Woodstock Music Festival ten years ago this August. She has recorded 19 albums and sold over 22 million records. Her hits include "(Lay Down) Candles in the Rain," "Look What They've Done to My Song," "Brand New Key," "Beautiful People" and "Peace Will Come." She has been the only female singer in the last 20 years to have three singles in the Top 40 at the same time.

Her music is a mixture of folk and

rock with an often satirical view of life in America as displayed in her songs "I Don't Eat Cows and Cows Don't Eat Me," and "Glory, Glory Psychotherapy." Songs about the environment, children, relationships and peace have been the focus of her career. She has also had two hits that were originally written and recorded by the Rolling Stones — "Ruby Tuesday" and "Wild Horses" — and much of her latest work has drifted toward more rock-n-roll.

The Hotline Center, now in its seventh year of operation, provides a number of services to the community in addition to their crisis center. They include the East Village Cinema, Flint branches of the American Civil Liberties Union and the National Organization for Women.

The Huron Alliance is responsible for staging the largest anti-nuclear demonstration in the history of the state on April 21 in Midland. Over 6,000 people gathered to voice their objections to nuclear power and to demand a clean and safe environment.

Tickets for the Melanie benefit are \$7.50, \$6.50 and \$5.50 and may be purchased at any Rocka Rolla, Recordland, Grapevine, MiddleEarth Books, Merlin's Retreat Vegetarian Cafe and the Whiting Box Office. Mail orders should contain a self-addressed and stamped envelope and check to be sent to: "Whiting Auditorium, 1241 E. Kearsley, Flint, MI." Phone reservations are also being taken at 239-6772. More Information can be obtained about the Melanie benefit concert by calling the Hotline Center at 742-1230.



The Huron Alliance of Flint, participating with 110,000 other people in the anti-nuke demonstration on May 6 in Washington, D.C.

Turn to page four for more . . .