## 'Equal access' bill poses dangers

A bill is being proposed by the U.S. House of Rep-resentatives which would circumvent current rul-ings on prayer in the public schools and would violate the principle of the separation of church and state.

violate the principle of the separation of church and state.

This bill. Resolution No. 5345, is known as the "Equal Access" bill. Equal access is designed to provide school facilities on an equal basis for groups which wish to use public-school facilities an on-class time.

Specifically, it would bar public high schools Expectifically it would bar public high schools attack that sought "to engage in voluntary extracturations activities that include prayer or religious speech" during non-instructional hours.

THE INTENT OF this bill is clearly to permit prayer meetings, religious discussions and revival meetings on school premises. It would also bar feer crail funding of any school that "discriminates on the basis of religious content of the speech at such meetings." There is a stimilar bill in the U.S. Senate which would allow "equal access" in all public schools.



This legislation is fraught with the same dangers of allowing religious exercise or formulations of prayer in the public achools. First, there is the danger of favoritism by school authorities toward a particular religion. Second, one can forsce a potential division of students along religious lines if public-school facilities can be used during lunch hour, study periods or other non-instructional times during the day for religious purposes.

One also notes the risk of proselytizing, with the appearance of official approval. After all, young people are prone to peer pressure, teacher influence and the emotional force of a group.

OTHER CONCERNS should be noted. Any collective activity that takes place within the public schools during mandatory school bours has the insplied endorsement of public-school suborities. Scheduling religious activities or meetings during school hours in a public school will make of our schools extensions of church or synagogue.

Public-school students, unlike college students, are impressionable minors whose attendance at school is mandated by law and whose educational programs are strictly controlled. It is improper that they be subject to sectarian religious practices and beliefs when they enroll in a public-school program.

Finally, this proposed legislation would open up school facilities not only to established religious groups, but also to other groups that prey upon im-pressionable or disturbed youngesters such as the Moonles, the American Naris and other cults.

If your share these views, you should contact your congressman and the senators of the State of Michigan to express your opposition.

## volunteers

## Listeners are needed

The Oakland County Volunteer
Bureau has a current file of volunterr opportunities for more
than 200 agencies. Non-profit or
continuous needing assistance
may list both the bureau. For
further information about these and other volunteer openings, please call the bureau at 642-7372.

CONTACT LIFELINE needs compassionate listeners for crisis, telephones. Extensive training is provided by this agency which serves the metropolitan Detroit area. Volunteers talk to people with troubles and make referrals to sources of help. Scheduling is flexible.

available: Manifestands, sides are needed to help with printing and electrical work; deaf receptionists are needed to subsect the house and write; my class registrations, groundsteepers are needed to plant flowers and time sample, activity, aldes are needed to run workly bing games and easteft standidapped children in the swimming pool.

compassional listeners for crisis elephones. Extensive training is revised by this agency which serves the metropolitan Detroit rea. Volunders talk to people with roubles and make referrals to courses of help. Scheduling is flexible.

SOUTH OAKLAND YMCA has a fixed by the serving the schedule fixed by the serving the

## Grammy showers are great idea

Dear Jo:
While our grandmother was going through the
process of moving from her home (of more than 50
years) to a senior-citizen's apartment, my sister
and I decided to give her a "moving": hower. We
know showers are mainly for brides and mothersto-be, but we figured Gram neceds a lift, and what
better way than a party? We invited friends not
only from her generation, but from our mother's
and ours as well. It was a nice mix of people and
the evening was a great success.

At the party we enjoyed hearing about other

At the party we enjoyed hearing about other showers in her life, particularly the one before our mather ws born . . . The gifts were very practical — new linens, kitchen gadgets, magazine subscriptions, etc.

tions, etc.

I hope you'll print my letter as I think that although giving a shower for an older women is a fairly new idea, it certainly is a "fun" one.

Mrs. R. F.

Dear Mrs. F.: Thank you for your letter. I think your idea of showers for older women is excellent.

Dear Jo:

I am compiling a book on successful retirement
— and I very much need the help of some of the
retired readers of your column. The book will incitide solid research in this field and an added feature of letters from "real" people (your readers)
who are enjoying happy, successful retirements.

Most books on retirement are on the planning aspect — mine will look at the actual living aspect ming a down-to-earth writing style that includes both anecdotes and stories from retired persons

gerontology A. Jolayne Farrell

from all walks of life — married, single, rich, not-so-tich, etc. Hopefully, the future readers will be able to identify with those they are reading about. I have attempted to get these letters through clastified ads, but so far, have not been successful. Since your column is published in towns and cities across Canada and the U.S., I would appreciate it if you would publish my letters. Retired persons who wish to share their experiences with me, Elemor Redding, for publication in my book can write to me at 111 Forest Hill Road, Grimsby, Ontario LSM 1A2. — Thank you.

Columnist Jolayne Farrell encourages questions and comments on the

subject of gerontology. Readers wishing to do so may write to:

1075 Queen St. East

Toronto, Onterio

Jolayne Farrell

P.O. Box 66

Dear Eleanor:
I'm sure many of the readers of this column will
respond to your request. Please let me know the
title, publisher and cost of your book after it is published so I can publish this information here in the
column and we can all enjoy your book.

Dear Jo: Why do older people appear so pale: Are they anemic

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HEAD TO TOE EUROPEAN SKIN CARE

Dear Ms. B:

Most people appear pale this time of year not just these who are older.

With aging, there can be a reduction in the number of factal skin capillaries, which are the tiny blood vessels that are close to the surface of the skin — and this can give one a paler look.

But, anemia as part of the aging process, no. Anemia is a medical condition that is secondary to some problem causing visible or invisible blood loss.

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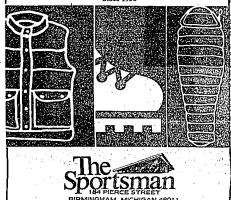
<sup>#1</sup> Mary Glaucz

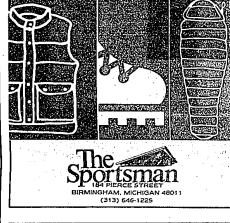
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Parks commissioners feted:

Two retiring Oakland County Parts
Oakland County Road Commission. Ho
and Recreation Commissioners — John
Gano of Bloomlield Hills and Dr. Joseph Montante of Orchard Late —
were honored at a banquet.
Ganu served as an ex-officio parts
and recreation commissioner in 1977, Oakland County Commissioner 19721978 and 1983 while chairman of the













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