

# How an organ found its way from Florida to Harrison

By DIANE HUBEL  
Thanks to the generosity of a Florida resident, the dedication of two teachers and a student, Harrison High has a 1969, 26 pedal organ.

Paul Barber, head of the music department of Harrison was told by a parent that Gustav Gorenflo of Florida wanted to donate an organ to some worthy group.

He looked further into the matter and learned that Gorenflo wanted to donate the organ which had belonged to his wife, Elnora Fuller Gorenflo, a well known pianist and organist, formerly of Detroit.

Groups interested in receiving the organ were asked to write a letter to Gorenflo, stating why they felt they should have it and stating what use would be made of it.

Barber was also told that the group who won the organ was being asked to pay the cartage costs of the organ and to attach a plaque to the organ in honor of Mrs. Gorenflo.

**BARBER WROTE** the letter stating that Harrison High was used by several area groups for recitals and concerts, adding that there were up to 100 performances a year in the auditorium.

He told Gorenflo that the organ would represent a vast cross section of the community if it were placed in the High School.

Soon after sending the letter he learned from Gorenflo that he had Harrison had been chosen to receive the organ. When Barber began to make the shipping arrangements he found that they would be more expensive and difficult than originally anticipated.

Barber decided that it would be more feasible to go down to Florida and get it himself.

He enlisted the aid of Maurie Wild, the schools vocal director and Mike Wiese, a student and the three of them headed for Florida on their Easter vacation.

**UNLIKE MOST** people who go to Florida for Easter, however, the three did not have time to lie on the beach for a tan. They left Farmington for Florida on Monday morning arrived back home on Wednesday evening. According to Barber they were in Florida about an hour and a half.

Upon arriving at Gorenflos home they found that the organ was on the second floor and there



Jim Geiger, Gustav Gorenflo, Paul Barber and Gayle Grulke with Harrison's new organ. (Photo by Ralph Evert)

were no elevators: The three men had to get it down the stairs themselves and load it on the van the school board had loaned them.

**DEDICATION** ceremonies for

the organ were held on Thursday at Harrison High.

Gorenflo flew in for the ceremony during which he was given a plaque from the students and faculty of Harrison thanking him for his generosity.

The plaque in memory for Mrs. Gorenflo was also completed and attached to the organ.

# Institute furthers traditions

By BARBARA BRUMM  
"We want to build a feeling of belonging as Jews and Americans and to awaken a warm interest in all things Jewish."

This is the aim of the Jewish Parents Institute (JPI) in Southfield, a social-cultural group which seeks to further education of Jewish traditions and culture to children and parents.

"We encourage a learning process among parents which parallels that of the children. We are a family-oriented program and consequently, and keep children and parents constantly communicating and active with each other," said Mrs. Marvin Golden, chairman of the membership committee.

JPI is a secular program which incorporates Jewish traditions and holiday observances but does not attempt to stress any religious in-

doctrination, leaving this matter to the individual members.

**THE CHILDRENS'** programs of the JPI are carried on through the "Children's Clubs" which meet weekly for informal education sessions.

The clubs are grouped according to age — the youngest club made up of 5 year olds and the oldest club made up of teenagers. It is tried to keep the number of children per classroom down to a maximum of 20.

Children are taught by professional teachers, but the key to the children's education is parent involvement.

"Parents make up the education curriculum and help decide what goes on in the classrooms," Mrs. Golden stressed.

"Parents thus work on all levels

of classroom activity from planning the content and methods of teaching to the planning of holiday celebrations.

**THE CURRICULUM** centers on many aspects of Jewish tradition which are "common to all Jews and around which Jewish community life in America revolves."

Some of the themes include the study of the Bible stories and Jewish festivals; ethics study, and the study of varying patterns of Jewish belief.

Through this curriculum the JPI hopes to fulfill various objectives in the children's club program which it has set for itself, specifically to stress the moral and ethical values of the Jewish tradition.

One such curriculum that was structured by parents was entitled, "The Holocaust in Germany and its Relationship to World Jewry." Designed to cover four points, the curriculum focused on how the holocaust happened, how it could have happened, how it affected Jews in America and how it affected humanity.

"WE ALSO want to help the child attain a complete identification with his Jewishness and to help the child develop a feeling of kinship, pride and responsibility for being a member of the Jewish community."

Parents also take an active role in the JPI by putting on adult programs for their own enjoyment and instruction. They choose subjects which interest them.

The JPI is a program of the Jewish Community Center of Detroit, and all JPI members are family members of the center. The insti-

## Evergreen slates fair

**BIRMINGHAM** - Evergreen Extravaganza, the first school fair to be held at Evergreen Elementary School is scheduled from 4 - 8 p.m. Tuesday, June 4, at the school, Evergreen and Thirteen Mile roads.

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