

Shalom, Chavarim!

Welcome to the premier edition of your special page written by and for New Americans!

Newcomers to the Greater Pittsburgh Jewish community are invited to contribute photographs (black and white) and articles in English and in Russian for this page which will appear once a month in the Chronicle.

All materials should be sent to:

New Americans Page
P.O. Box 7512
Pittsburgh, Pa. 15213.

CLUB SHALOM

The Jewish Community Center

Our New Americans Club Shalom had our first taste of an American summer with July and August activities. There were trips around the Pittsburgh area with visits to the Henry Kaufmann Family Recreation Park, a bi-lingual tour of the city, a day at Sea World in Aurora, Ohio and a visit to the famous Frank Lloyd Wright's Falling Water. Summer evenings included English language films and open sports nights at the Jewish Community Center in Squirrel Hill with volleyball, basketball, ping-pong, billiards and swimming.

The fall schedule promises to be even more rewarding for there will be lectures about the American way of life, job seminars, English conversation classes, classes in Judaism and recreational events.

Rabbi Bernard Poupko of Shaare Torah Congregation started the fall series with a discussion of the High Holy Days and answered questions concerning his recent European trip and the situation of the Soviet emigres now in Western Europe awaiting visas.

This Monday we saw the modern Ukranian Film "The White Bird with Black Markings."

On Monday evening September 22, 7 p.m., Nicholas Lane, Chairperson of the Pittsburgh Conference on Soviet Jewry, will discuss the present status of Soviet emigration and what New Americans can do to help relatives and friends still locked in Russia. The meeting will be held at the Jewish community Center in Squirrel Hill.

*Этот Шалом
для новых Шломы и Шломычков*

Содержит статьи на русском языке

*В номере также на русском языке
статья о положении в СССР и
о советской эмиграции.*

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В номере также на русском языке



SOME OF OUR FRIENDS

Attending a meeting of the Community Services Task Force of the United Jewish Federation of Greater Pittsburgh's New American Resettlement Committee are (l-r) Sarah Lehrman, Marion Markovitz, Ilene Fingeret, Beverly Mermelstein and Dean Hirschfield, Chairman of the Committee. Seated (l-r) are Andy Weiss of the Jewish Community Center Club Shalom, Nancy Simon, Task Force Chairperson and Thelma Wechsler.

A CONVERSATION WITH DEAN HIRSCHFIELD

Two years ago when Dean J. Hirschfield accepted the Chairmanship of the New Americans Resettlement Committee of the Federation, he immediately became absorbed in the resettlement process of all of us who were fortunate to be able to leave the Soviet Union. He continues to follow our progress as we work to become integrated into the Jewish community and to accept our new roles as Americans and as Jews.

"All of us 'old Americans' are grateful for the tremendous effort of the agencies, organizations and individuals working with our New American families," said Hirschfield. "Now our biggest personal responsibility is to help our new family members find jobs. Jobs are independence. Jobs are livelihood. Jobs are the key to the future."

Hirschfield is one of the scores of Jewish men and women who have committed themselves to finding employment for New Americans. These men and women work to find jobs outside of their own business or profession and also try to find job openings within their own individual business as well. They are aware of the great need for jobs and watch for openings whenever possible. Hirschfield personally has placed three Russians in his own business.

Since he was a young boy, Dean J. Hirschfield has had a strong feeling for Jews and Jewish life. Raised in a small community, he knew he was Jewish "when anti-semitism surfaced and affected the one or two Jews in my class. When I was eleven, we moved to a larger community in Boston when 28 of the 30 youngsters in my class were Jewish," he said. "My Jewish consciousness began a steady upswing from that point."

An ardent Zionist, Hirschfield explained that he is "a believer in tradition. My genes go back for hundreds of years," he said. "I am a result of what went on before me. I have an obligation as a link not to end this chain. How can I stop today and say I'm the end of the line? I want my children to be Jews and my grandchildren to be Jews. Judaism needs a headquarters," he said. "Israel brings hope to Judaism. Israel is a great influence on our children."

Noting that his own family has Russian roots, he spoke of his grandfather who came to this country at the age of 16 and brought his family over. "He came to an established Jewish community," said Hirschfield. "There were communal agencies and institutions. It was easy for him to find his wife—even though he couldn't speak English!"

"We have to continue helping our people," said Hirschfield. "We have an obligation to our latest generation of Russians. We have the responsibility to help them remain Jews." Hirschfield pointed out that "it took me a while to see what we had to do. I realize now that it is jobs that make New Americans independent and made him and her a part of the Jewish community."

"Newcomers can be isolated, ghettoized, speaking one language," said Hirschfield. "Our committee wants to help. We must help New Americans know the rest of the community."

"I have three Russians working for me," he said. "Sometimes it's hard to communicate. Our backgrounds are different. Economically we're not the same. It is difficult for Americans to realize what coming from Communist background means."

"But our newcomers have strength. They're tough," he said. "They had the courage to leave. It is difficult to leave everything you have. If you weren't tough you wouldn't survive."

"Each of us has to take one responsibility for getting one job," he said. "If you're too busy, get me the lead. I'll follow it through."

Do you know how many local agencies and organizations help New Americans to find a new life in the Greater Pittsburgh area? Each month we will focus on a specific individual or group.

The Amri

The newest members of our own 1981 United Jewish Federation's first Campaign for New Americans are Lazarus Maister, Galina Debra and Dean Hirschfield, Chairman of the Resettlement Committee. Others are Mark Alexandrov and F...

Dean Hirschfield explained that Jewish community has related to this country. For some more than a century ago...

He told us what the Federation of Pittsburgh, in Israel and all of us to become active participants...

This page contains five years

PRIZES

- 1st Prize
- 2nd Prize
- 3rd Prize



Leonard H. Rubenstein, Chairman of the Federation of Greater Pittsburgh, with his family at the United Jewish Federation since December 1978. They are Shendel Bakal, Ph.D., and her family. Leonard is a Ph.D. from the University of Pennsylvania. Shendel is a Ph.D. from the University of Pennsylvania. Leonard is a Ph.D. from the University of Pennsylvania. Shendel is a Ph.D. from the University of Pennsylvania.

VRC and Jobs

Over 400 Soviet Jews who have immigrated to the Pittsburgh area during the last seven years have been helped to become self-supporting members of the community through the efforts of the Vocational Rehabilitation Center of Allegheny County (VRC), a United Way agency. Through a long-standing relationship with the United Jewish Federation of Greater Pittsburgh (UJF) to meet the vocational needs of all refugees streaming into Pittsburgh, VRC has been the primary resource to help Soviet Jews find employment.

Because of a surge in the number of people who have arrived in the past two years, VRC has created a special unit devoted exclusively to serving the Russian Jews. Using specially trained Russian speaking staff, this program provides a wide range of services which include career counseling, job development, creative resume development, preparation of letters of introduction and explanation; area job analysis, interview preparation and placement. Translation services between employers and clients are given on an "as needed" basis, both for the interview situation and as a means of providing back-up services once the immigrant has been placed. This helps to facilitate the transition into the American job market.

VRC's staff tries to find work which is closely related to the abilities and work experiences of the newcomers. Many times this is difficult to accomplish because of the differences in culture, language proficiency and American standards. When possible, this effort to correlate past and present job experiences makes the transition much more meaningful in terms of the individual succeeding in the job.

This approach has been very successful as demonstrated by the high percentage (77%) of quality placements which is much higher than the national average of other cities engaged in similar efforts.

Since October of 1978, VRC has found work for 232 Soviet Jews. However, many more still need jobs. There are over 100 capable people anxious to start work.

To assist in the placement effort, the UJF has established several committees functioning under Resettlement Committee Chairman Dean Hirschfield. The Job Development Committee is under the chairmanship of Charles Deaktor and the Placement Task Force is headed by Ephraim Wemer.

Anyone having information about a possible job for a Russian Jew may contact Inna Anin of VRC at 471-2600, Ext. 173, between the hours of 8:30 a.m. and 4:30 p.m.

Jewish Holidays and Traditions

This is a time of new beginnings. The High Holy Days, known as the Days of Awe, began with the celebration of the New Year on Rosh Hashanah and will end with Yom Kippur, a day of promise.

Traditionally, Jews prepare themselves prior to the Days of Awe. Beginning before Rosh Hashanah, special prayers for forgiveness (Selihot) are said in synagogues and temples. The Shabbat between Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur is known as Shabbat Shuvah, the Shabbat of Return (to God). In earlier times, Jews went to each other to ask forgiveness and to set things right before the holiday season. To forgive and be forgiven is to begin the New Year fresh.

ROSH HASHANAH

Rosh Hashanah falls on the first day of the Hebrew month of Tishri, when the world was said to have been created. In Hebrew, Rosh Hashanah means "Head of the Year," marking the beginning of the Jewish New Year.

In America, Rosh Hashanah is a very special day. Unlike the New Year on January first, it is not celebrated with parties and noise-making. Instead, it is a time for quiet moral introspection. The keynote of the Jewish New Year can be found in the nature of the names by which it is known: Rosh Hashanah, Head of the Year; Yom ha-Din, Day of Judgment; Yom Hazikaron, Day of Remembrance; and Yom Teruah, Day of the Sounding of the Shofar.

At the traditional family meal, one of the beautiful customs is the dipping of apples into honey to symbolize the hope for a sweet and fruitful year. The challah at the holiday table is baked in a round shape to express the hope that the year's blessing may be complete and without end. Reform Jews celebrate Rosh Hashanah for all years, while Orthodox and Conservative Jews observe two days.

The Book of Life remains open for Rosh Hashanah to Yom Kippur. If you are desiring, hopefully we will be inscribed for a good year in the pages of the Book of Life. The traditional Rosh Hashanah greetings, Leshana Tovah Tikatev, "May you be inscribed for a good year," originates in this belief.

The shofar, the ram's horn, sounds to announce a beginning, a conscience. It awakens us to repentance and serves as a reminder that we have the power within ourselves to make life better. It says, "Stop a minute and think about where you are going. Are you making the most good of your life?"

YOM KIPPUR

Yom Kippur is a great and solemn day, the Day of Atonement. The word atonement is made up of two key words, "at-one" On this day of AT-One-Ment, Jews seek to be "at one" or in harmony with God. Each Jew stands directly before God, confesses his sins and asks for forgiveness.

On this Yom Kippur Day, The Jew seeks forgiveness from God and from his fellow man.

Yom Kippur begins on the ninth evening after Rosh Hashanah. Yom means "day" and the root for the word Kippur means "to cleanse" ourselves. No work is allowed. The Torah states that on this day we should practice self-denial, so it is a fast day. It is a day devoted completely to prayer and meditation.

Services begin on Yom Kippur eve. The highlight of the evening service is the Kol Nidre prayer. Kol Nidre means "all vows." This prayer releases us from vows made between God and ourselves which we may have been forced to make or have made thoughtlessly. Historically, Kol Nidre recalls the generations of Jews who faced persecution throughout the ages.

There are many parts to the Yom Kippur day service: the Shacharit or morning service, the Torah reading, the Musaf or additional service. The afternoon service is the Yom Kippur reading, the Memorial Service, Yizkor, and the Neilah closing service. In Reform Temples, some of the services are separated, while in Orthodox and Conservative Synagogues, services are continuous throughout the day.

As the sun sets, the "Neilah" or closing service begins. Neilah signifies the closing of the gates of Heaven; its prayers are hopeful ones. The shofar is blown one last time and the Day of Atonement comes to an end. The Book of Life, opened on Rosh Hashanah is closed. We can hope that we are inscribed in its pages for a good year. As we turn from the past to the future, we hope that God will grant a year of blessing for us and all mankind. Leshana Tovah Tikatev.

American Way

... Jewish community began our Campaign Drive last month. At ... "lanamen" who have settled in ... President of Club Shalom; Yevgeniy Alexandrov, Solomon Gershanok of the Federation of the New Americans ... Americans leading the Campaign Magazine.

... every member of Pittsburgh's ... who were at one time immigrants ... migration experience took place ... yesterday.

... and how it works to help Jews in ... world. The Chairman encouraged ... community.



PLANNING THE FIRST

New Americans Campaign of the United Jewish Federation of Greater Pittsburgh are (left to right) Lazar Kosakov, President Club Shalom;

Yevgeniy Mayster, Galina Detinko, Dean Hirschfield, Chairperson of the Federation's New Americans Resettlement Committee; Inna Alexandrov and Solomon Gershanok.

NAME-THE-PAGE CONTEST

... for a name. If you are a new American and have lived in Greater Pittsburgh for less ... are eligible to enter.

Send your idea to: Name-The-Page Contest
P.O. Box 7512
Pittsburgh, Pa. 15213

PRIZES—PRIZES—PRIZES—PRIZES—PRIZES—PRIZES

... one year Free Family Membership at the Jewish Community Center.

... one Summer Free Family membership at the Henry Kaufmann Family Recreation Park in Monroeville.

... two tickets for the Y Music Society Series.

DEADLINE: NOVEMBER 1, 1980

Don't delay.....send your entry in now.



Кавенгарт

Американская ассоциация на мемориал и парке отдыха 1980.

Мемориал 1980. Какое название

Парк отдыха, мемориал на парке отдыха. Как назвать? Это будет проект

Кавенга, 60 улица

С.В.В.В.В. В.В.В.В.В.

Проект 1980. Какое название парку отдыха

Проект 1980. Какое название парку

Проект 1980. Какое название парку

Проект 1980. Какое название парку

Мемориал 1980. Какое название парку

Проект 1980. Какое название парку

THE BELLS

... of the United Jewish ... welcomed the Bakal ... Final. The Bakal ... their home in Pitts- ... returned left to right ... Anshel and Riva ... at Carnegie-Mel- ... mechanical assembler at ... Inc. Riva, now ... co-manager in ... and most in ... in the Pittsburgh