

EAST SIDE JEWS PROUD OF
THEIR AMERICAN HERITAGE



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OFFICIAL PROGRAM

25 CENTS

TO PLAN A PAGEANT: By ZELDA GREENSTEIN, program director, Committee for the Lower East Side Bicentennial Project

All of us remain in some way attached to where we grew up. Wherever we may move, we retain special memories and feelings about our original neighborhoods. For the Jewish people who struggled toward their place in America, there was something unique about growing up on the Lower East Side. When they talk or write about their old neighborhood they reflect a special fondness for the people and places they recall. Those who passed through the Lower East Side were not simply striving away from squalor and hardship directly to an easy, comfortable life--they were striving for a certain life quality. It was a constant struggle, which demanded a special energy. The energy was the product of the confrontation between their old-world Jewish values and the availability in the secular world of endless opportunities to realize their potential in areas that were previously closed off to them.

Jewish immigrants began settling the Lower East Side in the nineteenth century. The spirit that existed among them has been celebrated in books, photographs, films and plays--and in many different ways through the lives of the people who grew up there and went on to become unionists, politicians, doctors, artists, businessmen, community leaders, teachers, lawyers, entertainers and writers all over the world.

As America celebrates its Bicentennial it is fitting to celebrate the contribution of our neighborhood to the development of America. For the past one hundred years Jews from the Lower East Side have played a large part in all areas of our society. Let us celebrate out in our streets, bringing many people back to their old home and others to experience for the first time a place they have heard stories about and seen pictures of for many years. Here in the midst of the source of that special energy that has been carried all over the world by so many, we celebrate the Lower East Side and all the people to whom it owes its life and all those who owe it their lives.

COORDINATOR'S MESSAGE: By GEORGE J. FRIEDMAN, Educational Alliance

This project has been a unique experience for me as well as for the community participants and the Educational Alliance. We have not had a Bicentennial before, and the Alliance was still a bar mitzvah away when we had our Centennial.

This has been a learning as well as a doing experience for me. As a graduate student at Yeshiva University's Wurzweiler School of Social Work, with my fieldwork placement at the Alliance, I approached the project from the same point-zero everyone else did. Since the first planning meeting last October 28, more than two dozen Jewish organizations have developed presentations they can be proud of. Their only reward is the satisfaction of having saluted the Jewish contribution to America. Extra efforts were made by the steering committee: Beverly Bernstein, Harold Gordon, Zelda Greenstein, David Mark, Meyer Nochlin and Rita Siff. To all, a sincere "Yofi."

Special thanks go to Zelda Greenstein, who originated the festival idea (see above); to Dr. Louis Berkowitz, executive director of the Alliance and my fieldwork supervisor, whose professionalism and patience helped me negotiate the rapids; to Chaim Grunwald, assistant executive director, who chaired the planning meetings and is an artist in pink ink; to Mrs. Elsie Heinbach, executive secretary, efficient and friendly; to Dr. Louis Levitt, my faculty advisor, who made of his class a community; to Dr. Lloyd Settleis, dean of Wurzweiler, for special assistance, and not least to N. Abler and May Blitz. Without their help, we would not be able to say of today's event, "Nes gadol haya po."

See you in 2076/5836.

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COMMITTEE FOR THE LOWER EAST SIDE BICENTENNIAL PROJECT
Room 4G, 197 East Broadway, New York 10002 / Phone: 475-6200, ext. 5

Shalom and welcome to our Bicentennial salute to the Jewish contribution to America! We invite you to enjoy, enjoy as many of these free-admission events as possible:

STANDING DISPLAYS--EAST BROADWAY BETWEEN JEFFERSON AND CLINTON STREETS:

American Jewish Literature--Women's American ORT/Kazan Chapter: Mrs. Belle Glickhouse, Mrs. Gertrude F. Sharcoff.

American Jewish Woman--American Mizrachi/Shirah Chapter: Mrs. Gale Weintraub, Mrs. Shirley Ebner, Mrs. Amy Shevlin.

B'nai B'rith in America--B'nai B'rith/Samuel Dickstein Chapter and Lodge: Mrs. Ann Goodman.

Civil Rights--Anti-Defamation League of B'nai B'rith: Miss Beth Randall; B'nai B'rith/Samuel Dickstein Lodge and Chapter: Mr. Abe Feller.

Crafts--Co-op Nursery: Mrs. Claire P. Kaplan; Elder Craftsmen: Mrs. Celeste Newman.

Educational Alliance/Information--Mrs. Sarah Ehrlich and friends.

Educational Alliance Alumni Association and New Era Club--Mr. George Freedman, Mr. Harold Gordon; Mr. Ruby Goldstein, former referee, 2-4 p.m., Alumni booth, with talk on "Jews in Boxing," 3-3:10 p.m.

Immigration--United HIAS Service: Mr. Raymond Gebiner.

Jewish Community Outreach--United Jewish Council of the East Side: Mr. Israel Gombo, who will speak twice, 10 a.m.-noon.

Jewish Identity--Jewish Identity Center: Mr. Gene Singer; Jewish Defense League/Shuva: Mrs. Shifra Hoffman.

Jewish Military Heroes--Jewish War Veterans/Lower East Side Post 4: Mr. Irving Gottlieb; film, Patriots for Peace, continuously.

Kosher Food (for sale)--Jewish War Veterans/Esorkowsky Post 370: Mr. Meyer Nochlin.

Living Judaism--Mesivtha Tifereth Jerusalem Parent-Teachers Association (including Mr. Mordecai Zidele, accordionist, 1 p.m.; Mr. Eli Nachman, tzitzit-maker, 2-3 p.m.): Mrs. Sharon Zidele; Young Israel Synagogue of Manhattan and Young Israel Sisterhood (Lubavitch-mobile, noon-5 p.m.; yarmulka-maker, 12:30 p.m.; scribe, 1:30 p.m.): Mrs. Rita Siff.

Mobilization for Survival--United Jewish Appeal-Federation of Jewish Philanthropies: Mr. Samuel H. Friedman, Mrs. Rose Chase; Mr. Benny Friedman, former New York Giant quarterback, 3-4 p.m.

Street Banner--Jewish Teen Lounge: Mr. Yisroel Cohen.

Unionism--International Ladies Garment Workers Union: Mr. John Denaro.

Yeshiva Konvitz Tribute--East Side Torah Center: Mrs. Ethel Mark.

IN THE SEWARD PARK LIBRARY SQUARE, EAST BROADWAY:

10-11 a.m.--Greetings: Dr. Louis Berkowitz, executive director, Mr. Chaïm Grunwald, assistant executive director, Educational Alliance; Representative John M. Murphy; State Senator Carol Bellamy; State Assemblyman Anthony G. Di Falco; Councilwoman Miriam Friedlander; Controller Harrison J. Goldin; Mr. Wilbert Tatum, representing Borough President Percy Sutton; Mr. Sanford Solender, Federation of Jewish Philanthropies; Dr. Jerry Hochbaum, Alliance trustee; Rabbi L. Nison Alpert; presentation to Mrs. Rose Lesser, winner, festival slogan contest ("East Side Jews Proud of Their American Heritage").

11-11:30 a.m.--Dr. Marnin Feinstein, City College: "Zionism on the Lower East Side" (in English); introduced by Mr. Sheldon Silver, Alliance trustee.

11:30 a.m.-noon--Mr. Raymond Gebiner, United HIAS Service, Forward Association, WEVD Radio: "History of the Lower East Side" (in Yiddish); introduced by Rabbi Isaac Trainin, Synagogue Relations Commission, Federation of Jewish Philanthropies.

Noon-12:30 p.m.--American Jewish Ensemble: Mr. Stanley Brechner, Mrs. Zelda Greenstein; introduced by Mr. Grunwald.

12:30-1 p.m.--Greetings: Hon. Abraham D. Beame, Mayor, City of New York; introduced by Dr. Berkowitz.

1-1:45 p.m.--Shir Baboker Jewish-rock trio (Mr. Eli Nachman, Mr. Barry Blatt, Mr. Ira Burrell): Mesivtha Tifereth Jerusalem Parent-Teachers Association; introduced by Mr. Silver.

2-4 p.m.--Yiddish Entertainment Spectacular: Educational Alliance Zimrah Chorale (Mr. Eugene Malek, conductor); Mr. Mort Freeman, Mr. Hershel Gendel, Miss Miriam Kressyn, Miss Shifra Lehrer, Mr. Seymour Rexite, Miss Sarah Rubin, Mr. Zvee Scooler, Miss Renee Solomon, Mr. Israel Welichansky, Mr. Herman Yablokoff (Workmen's Circle: Mr. William Stern, host, Mr. Joseph Mlotek, Mr. Ira Perlstein; Hebrew Actors Union: Mr. Yablokoff; program funding: Jacob T. Zukerman Fund, Workmen's Circle).

10 a.m.-5 p.m.--Art and Photography of the Lower East Side: Gouverneur Gardens Men's Club, Mr. Joseph Lieberman; Project Ezra, Dr. William Aron.

WALKING TOURS OF JEWISH LANDMARKS:

A--Educational Alliance, Henry Street, Rutgers Square, Yiddish Newspaper Row, Seward Park, Spanish-Portuguese Cemetery, Division Street, Bayard Street, Eldridge Street, Hester Street, Essex/Hester Streets (Mr. Lou Katzowitz, Workmen's Circle, host; two one-hour tours from Educational Alliance, 11 a.m., 3:30 p.m.).

B--Seward Park, Seward Park Library, Old Forward Building, Old Day-Morning Journal Building, Canal/Essex Streets, Orchard Street, Delancey Street, Allen Street, Hebrew Publishing Company, Eldridge Street, Rivington Street, Turkish Synagogue, Roumanian Synagogue, Norfolk Street Synagogue, Chevra Kadisha of Congregation Morya, Shapiro's Wine Company, Essex Street Market, Grand Street, Beth Hamedrash Hagadol, Co-op Village, Henry Street Playhouse, Bialystoker Synagogue, East Broadway, local synagogues, Young Israel, Bialystoker Home, Jewish mural (Mr. David Greenstein, host; two-hour

tour from Educational Alliance, noon).

C--Eldridge Street Synagogue (hosts, Mr. Eric Byron, Chevra Shmira farn Yiddishn Ovor/Society for the Preservation of the Jewish Past; Prof. Gerard Wolfe, New York University; four half-hour tours from Educational Alliance, 1, 1:30, 2, 2:30 p.m.).

ON THE SEWARD PARK BASKETBALL COURT:

Israeli dancing, 10-11:30 a.m.; children's crafts, 10:30 a.m.-noon, 1-2:30 p.m.; children's sports, noon-4 p.m.; children's story hour, 1:30-2:30 p.m.: Hapoel Hamizrachi/Aliza Chapter, Mrs. Beverly Bernstein; Kol Tov Children, Mrs. Pola Susswein.

INSIDE THE EDUCATIONAL ALLIANCE, 197 EAST BROADWAY:

1-2 p.m., Room U1--Mrs. Shoshana Adler, teacher, 1918-21, Hebrew National School for Girls: "Jewish Education on the Lower East Side"; Miss Rachel Steinberg, singer; introduced by Mrs. Sarah Ehrlich, Young Israel.

1-2 p.m., Room U19--Dr. William Aron, Project Ezra: "Lower East Side Revisited," slide film/lecture.

2-3 p.m., Room U12--Mr. Morton Leventhal: Israeli coins, Hadrian's head--display/lecture.

10 a.m.-5 p.m., Gallery--Historical Photographs of the Lower East Side: Mr. Harold Gordon.

10 a.m.-5 p.m., Room U5--Synagogue Legacy in Photographs: Miss Suellen Snyder, Educational Alliance; Tape-Recorded Reminiscences: Mrs. Lillian Tamarkin, Adult Council/Podell House.

10 a.m.-3:30 p.m., Auditorium--Films on Jewish Themes: The Inheritance (Amalgamated Clothing Workers of America; one hour); The Ingathering (Anti-Defamation League of B'nai B'rith; 40 minutes); City of Immigrants (Paul Shapiro, Jeff Schlesinger, New York University; eight minutes); L'Chaim (Women's American ORT/Kazan Chapter; 90 minutes); Rendezvous With Freedom (Workmen's Circle; 45 minutes); Harry Golden: The Greatest Jewish City in the World (courtesy Bowery Savings Bank; 22 minutes). (See below for Mr. Golden's personal appearance.)

4-5:30 p.m., Auditorium--Jewish Writers' Panel: Dr. David S. Lifson, producer, director, historian, author of The Yiddish Theatre in America; Mr. Harry Golden, former editor, The Carolina Israelite, author of Only in America, For 2c Plain, Enjoy, Enjoy!; host, Mr. David Mark, East Side Torah Center; introduced by Mr. Martin J. Freund, president, Educational Alliance Board of Trustees.

6:30-8 p.m., Auditorium--Film, Hester Street (courtesy Mrs. Joan Micklin Silver, director; free admission).

Additional Thanks To: Adult Council, American Mizrachi/Shirah Chapter, Bezalel Jewish Art Gallery, B'nai B'rith Women, Bowery Savings Bank (Bicentennial bags: Mr. Samuel Feldman, Miss Judy Geller), Mrs. Fannie Chernin, Mr. Stanley Cooperstein (Junior High School 22 printing shop), Crown Kosher Meat Products, Miss Sarah Dolgin, Mrs. Phyllis Drucker, East River Men's Club (Security: Mr. Samuel Fleischer, Mr. William Sicklick, in cooperation with Seventh Precinct: Capt. Norman Weiner),

Educational Alliance Alumni Association, Essex Street Retail Market Merchants Realty Corporation, Mr. Abe Feller, Rabbi Abraham Fishelis (Mesivtha Tifereth Jerusalem), Gabila & Sons, Garden Cafeteria, Ger-tel's Bake Shop, Gladys Herzman Lecture Forum, Mr. Sol Goldstein, Mr. Red Grooms, Hollander's Pickles, Joseph Jacobs Organization, Key Foods Store, Mr. Shmuel Knophler (button mechanical), B. Manischewitz Compa-ny, Manufacturers Hanover Trust Company/Delancey Street, Rabbi Seymour Nulman (East Side Torah Center), Mr. Parker E. Panttila (poster lay-out), Pioneer Women/Golda Jean Club (Mrs. Blanche Feuer), Podell House, Project Ezra (sound truck), Mr. Michael Rani (maintenance), Ratner's Dairy Restaurant, Mr. Herman Reid, I. Rokeach & Sons, Second Avenue Kosher Delicatessen and Restaurant, Senior Literary Club (Miss Risa Schmookler), Seward Park Library, Miss Beatrice Shustko (Alliance his-tory), Mr. Gene Singer (commemorative button design) and Jewish De-fense League, Mrs. Bertha Spector, Tov Caterers, United Jewish Council of the East Side (Rabbi Joseph Langer, Mr. Israel Gombo), Women's Amer-ican ORT/Kazan Chapter, and other staff and students of the Education-al Alliance. (Events and credits as of May 31.)

The festival is supported by Bicentennial Ethnic Funds courtesy Office of Hon. Paul O'Dwyer, City Council President, and the New York City Bi-centennial Corporation.

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A BICENTENNIAL LOOK AT THE LOWER EAST SIDE: By DAVID MARK, East Side To-rah Center from information supplied by GEORGE FREEDMAN

...the Government of the United States, which gives to bigotry no sanction, to persecution no assistance, requires only that they who live under its protection should demean themselves as good cit-izens, in giving it on all occasions their effectual support. May the children of the stock of Abraham, who dwell in this land, con-tinue to merit and enjoy the good will of the other inhabitants; while every one shall sit in safety under his own vine and figtree, and there shall be none to make him afraid.

--George Washington, 1790

Give me your tired, your poor,/Your huddled masses yearning to breathe free,/The wretched refuse of your teeming shore,/Send these, the homeless, tempest-tossed, to me./I lift my lamp beside the gold-en door.

--Emma Lazarus, 1884

In behalf of its sons the East Side was prepared to commit sui-cide; perhaps it did. --Irving Howe, World of Our Fathers, 1975

The Bicentennial is upon us. An unending parade of periwigged gentle-men and petticoated ladies marches through our newspapers and over the air-waves, mouthing patriotic platitudes, mostly to get us to buy the Special Bicentennial Version of whatever product they're pushing. Paul Revere sells plane tickets; Betsy Ross buys her thread at Woolworth's. Had a Hol-iday Inn existed in 1776, George Washington would almost certainly have made a point of sleeping there. As a result, the Bicentennial has become, for many people, nothing more than a wave of fervently patriotic material-ism. We of the Lower East Side, however, welcome this period as a time for reexamining our origins, gauging our progress and speculating about our future.

It is curious that, when speaking of our neighborhood, outsiders will

inevitably refer to it as "the still-vital Jewish community of the Lower East Side," as though they were describing a person in the last stage of terminal cancer, whose mind is gone but whose bodily functions continue in a zombielike whimsy, with death not far off. One would think that we were all over seventy, living on Social Security in dingy tenements, barricaded behind Fox police locks and Medeco cylinders in fear of Them, whoever They be, whether muggers, gonovim or other evildoers. It is true that some of us live in such places; certainly we all share the same fears. And yet, in spite of everything, this is one of the best places to live in Manhattan--and, consequently, New York City. We are within walking distance of Chinatown, Greenwich Village, SoHo, Little Italy and Orchard Street; we are a half-hour subway ride from Broadway. Our rents are low, for Manhattan; Grand Street, our main drag, is a wide, well-lit boulevard along which stand mighty apartment complexes, the enduring results of a utopian cooperative housing concept which emerged from the socialistic spirit of Lower East Side labor unions. We don't sit out on the stoop anymore, fanning away Jersey mosquitoes, drinking Schaefer and reading the Racing Form--if we ever did.

For us, the American Revolution is a fairly recent event. Our Jewish community began not two hundred but three hundred twenty-two years ago, when a group of bedraggled but spirited Portuguese Sephardic Jews, refugees from the Brazilian branch of the Inquisition, disembarked from the French privateer St. Charles at a Lower Manhattan wharf and petitioned Governor Peter "Pegleg" Stuyvesant to let them settle in New Amsterdam, under Dutch protection. Stuyvesant vehemently refused; a staunch Dutch Reformed Churchgoer, he could see it would be but a matter of time before he was forced to admit not only the Jews but--horror of horrors!--the Catholics, the Lutherans, even the Quakers. Who could tell where it would all end? It happened that New Amsterdam's sponsors, the Dutch West India Company, included several Jews on its board of directors. Stuyvesant was overruled; the Jews stayed. Somehow, it is appropriate that the first American city to admit Jews came to have the largest Jewish population of any city in America, and indeed in the world. It all began on the Lower East Side.

The 1654 settlement was only the beginning of a long list of Jewish "firsts" in this neighborhood. Many landmark synagogues got their start down here, from the Spanish-Portuguese Congregation Shearith Israel (The Remnant of Israel), the first regular synagogue in North America, founded in 1730 on South William Street, to the Wall Street Synagogue, founded in 1929 at Broadway and Duane Street and moved in 1957 to 47 Beekman Street. In between these dates, many other houses of worship were founded in our

area, representing all different denominations, including the Reform Congregation Rodeph Sholom (Pursuers of Peace; 1842, at 157 Attorney Street); Temple Emanu-El (1845, at Grand and Chrystie), whose founders later also created B'nai B'rith; Beth Hamedrash Hagadol (Great Synagogue; 1852, at 82 Bayard Street), the oldest Russian Jewish Orthodox congregation in America, and the Rabbi Isaac Elchanan Theological Seminary (1897, at 9-11 Montgomery Street), the first Orthodox rabbinical seminary in America. RIETS went on to become, of course, Yeshiva University, and inevitably itself moved uptown. That's the way it has been for us Lower East Siders who have chosen to remain or who have returned. This has always been a great neighborhood to be from, as attested to by the dozens of former Lower East Siders who have made it in the outside world, be it in art, sports, literature, politics, religion or science. It is up to us now to continue making this neighborhood a great place to live in, to raise children.

We are an area of contrasts, like all New York: Yiddish-accented merchants on Orchard Street haggle with black and Hispanic youths over the price of Superfly jackets, snap-brim hats and multicolored platform shoes. Yiddish and Spanish slang words and curses fly, the participants appearing to despise one another yet realizing how much they need one another to survive in this neighborhood. Jews and non-Jews live together, sometimes amiably, sometimes not. We are all coarsely pragmatic, and we all want a better life for our children. That is one reason why settlement houses have continued to function in this neighborhood, why they must never forget their Jewish origins, why they must reach out for Jewish support. For on another level, we are also District One. We are a polarized community in matters of race, religion and education; we all remember the years of bitter court fights that kept a beautiful new housing project on Grand and Essex unoccupied.

Questions are always better than their answers, and problems are always easier to find than their solutions. This Bicentennial year of 1976, with all Americans paying at least a passing glance at their past, let us of the Lower East Side take a good look at ourselves, at our community. We who have given our country so much talent, so much accomplishment, must do the same for our neighborhood. We are the latest participants in the great American Jewish Experience here on the Lower East Side; we are neither a rowdy urban slum nor the fossil of a vanished Eastern European shtetl. There is not a Jew in America who cannot claim some link to our community; at some time or other we have all been Lower East Siders. This, of course, should be a source of much pride to us living on the Lower East Side today. While others who lived here have gone, we have remained. We will endure.

SEVEN DECADES LATER: By LILLIAN TAMARKIN, Adult Council/Podell House

I remember the ten-day trip on the ship from Liverpool, England, landing on Ellis Island, August the third, 1904. Mother and four daughters, aged from eight to fourteen, came for a hundred dollars--the two youngest for half-fare. I was the youngest. Our father had come here six months before. From the ship we were taken by a tender to Ellis Island, where we waited to be claimed by our father. All the immigrants sat around long tables and were served boiled potatoes. When names were being called, all was quiet, listening to hear our own name being called from a balcony. When our name was called I didn't recognize our father, as he was clean-shaven. Before we got on a horse-drawn trolley car he bought us bananas and tomatoes, which we had never seen.

We got an apartment on Cherry Street, which was nicknamed "Castle Garden." The fire escapes ran from a whole door to Monroe Street building and then to the street. We used it once--a few days after my sister was born, as there was a fire in the building.

My older sister had very little schooling here, as she was already fourteen years old and didn't need working papers. So the next-youngest, when she was thirteen, used her sister's birth certificate to get her working papers. The one three years older than me couldn't stay in school till graduation. Conditions were bad. I believe we had a Depression then, and even the low salaries that the older children earned were needed for shelter, food and clothing. The tenement we lived in had the toilets in the hall--in the yard, rather; so we had to have our needs taken care of in the apartment.

I remember mother bringing her baking to a bakery on either Water or Front Street on Friday where many women gathered to bake their Shabbos bread. And when all the challies were baked, pots of cholent were placed in the ovens and left overnight to bake slowly. Before our parents came home from shul on the Shabbos the children would go to the bakery and bring the cholent home.

We finally moved to Jackson Street--35. The number of the building is still there, but not the same building, because now it's the Vladeck housing. Conditions there were a little bit better than on Cherry Street, and there were toilets in the hall. I attended Public School 12, which was an old red-brick building and was replaced about 1908 by the building that is still standing there, which is a junior high school today. I finished the elementary school at P. S. 147, which was demolished a few years ago, I am told. When I went looking for a job when I was fourteen, it was very, very hard. All the ads said, "Young Christian girl wanted," and as I was not Christian, I could not apply for the job. During the age when

I was about twelve, during the summer I worked in a candy factory. When I was thirteen, during that summer I worked in a cigar-box factory putting on gold leaf, and when the inspectors came around to check who was working they hid me in the toilet. I found one job after another, at very poor pay--three, four dollars a week--till I was sixteen and was able to get a job working in a dress factory. Not on the machine; doing stock work, adding the amount of lace to each bundle, matching threads and learning how to buy these things from the manufacturer--the buttons to match, the silk, the threads, the lace. And I was there till I was married at the age of twenty-one.

We had moved away from the Lower East Side about 1911. When I came back here nine years ago, I came into a building that was built through the Educational Alliance for senior citizens, and at that time I was past seventy. In this building we have a group of people. We try to help each other. We all help each other. We have people who go out of their way to do shopping for others that are either ill or can't do it or can't walk, and it is a close family. Since that time--when we came in here in 1967--many have gone to their eternal rest. Others have replaced them, and we have tried to bring them all into a group; we do have a tenants' association. I myself had been blind for a few years and was unable to do very much, but when I had received some sight back through surgery a few years ago I have been doing my volunteer work here in the building and in an old-age home in the neighborhood. I feel very fulfilled, being able to use my old age to good advantage.

When this tape recording will be heard (in Room U5) for our Bicentennial celebration I will have nearly reached my eightieth birthday, and it is a pleasure for me to be able to do this because I know not only I but, I don't think, anybody listening will be here when the next roll call comes around for a centennial celebration. This is my thoughts of today, and I hope and pray that for a few more years that I will be able to go on doing the things I am enjoying doing. Goodbye.

MEMORIES OF MY YOUTH: By GLADYS BERTRAM, Brooklyn

Dear friends, it gives me pleasure to tell you about my old memories of my youth on the Lower (East) Side of New York City.

My parents came from Russia to celebrate their wedding in America in the late 80's. Fascinated by the wonders and freedom here, they decided to make their home here. I was named Devayra and Jewish was my mother tongue. When I went to school my teacher, mostly of Irish descent, asked me to repeat my name and said she could not write it. Rather upset, I answered, "So how could I learn to write it?" Since my father's name was Binimovitch my brothers and sisters, each one, had a different spelling

of our name. The teachers could not pronounce or spell it.

There was such intense feeling about the Jewish population settling in their midst. We sang songs on the street, so they could hear us. The Torah was our pride, and we intended to remain Jews. We must put our trust in God. He knows what is best.

As you can understand, the faith in our Torah, our Ten Commandments, gives really the laws of a happy life. There is no other race on earth that can boast of such a literary theme of truth and happiness for living.

In line with our 1976 Bicentennial, let me call your attention to the fact that although our founders in Colonial days were of English Protestant faith, our money reads, "In God We Trust"--not their religious prophets. That is maybe because Haym Salomon, a Jew from Poland, brought money from the rough, dangerous boats across the Atlantic Ocean to support the Revolutionary War. The new American colonists had support financially from many Jewish families. Ever since, it is believed "the Jews have money."

You and I know there are many Jews without money. Jewish charities outnumber any other religious organizations. The faith and hope found in Jewish circles is outstanding and commendable. If you read news about important discoveries, innovations in medicine, astronomy, literature and different branches in science, you will see a Jewish name heading the list. Be proud of your heritage as Jews and never sever from the path, in order to bring happiness in your lifetime.

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The noon performance of the American Jewish Ensemble has been canceled.

Thanks to Mr. Ray Silver for arranging the free-admission showing of the film Hester Street (see schedule); and to Sam's Kosher Pizza/Knishes.

A Lost and Found Department has been established at the front desk of the Educational Alliance.



The Big Apple... popular symbol of New York City, headquarters of Manufacturers Hanover Trust Company. One of the world's leading banks, Manufacturers Hanover has the specialists and facilities—offices throughout metropolitan New York and upstate affiliates as well—to serve the unusual, as well as the usual, banking needs of corporations. If your business is interstate, consider this: we are a leading money center correspondent for over 3,000 U.S. banks. If your business is international, consider this: we have an overseas presence that includes over 70 facilities (branches, representative offices, subsidiaries and affiliates) in some 35 countries, and our worldwide correspondent network extends to more than 1,600 banks in 122 countries, including relationships with over 100 central banks. Whatever or wherever your banking needs, consider the source.

MANUFACTURERS HANOVER