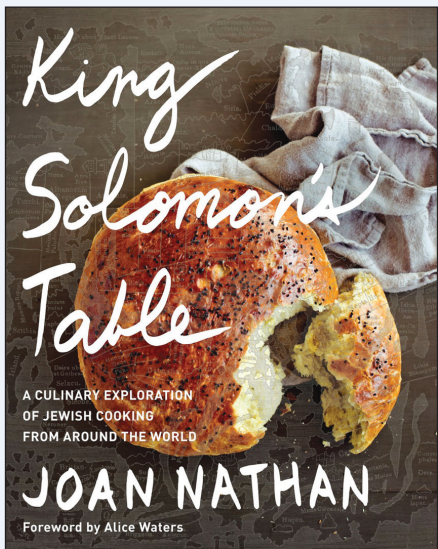


Joan Nathan compiles Jewish food lore, recipes



Jewish food maven Joan Nathan (*Jewish Cooking in America*) has written a hefty new cookbook that traces our food from its Babylonian roots to biblical Israel through Europe and the new world of Jewish cuisine — with Israel emerging as a hub of innovation. *King Solomon's Table: A Culinary Exploration of Jewish Cooking from Around the World* (Knopf) — with a foreword by Alice Waters, of Chez Panisse fame — is beautifully illustrated, with mouthwatering recipes covering the main food categories. How about some *Kolokuthokeftedes*, Zucchini Fritters, like they fry up in Athens? Substitute potato for the zucchini and you have something called latkes. This is a must-have cookbook for the Jewish foodie. — Mordecai Spektor

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[Tabbouleh recipe / Page 16](#)

The American Jewish World

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Premier: Western Wall *not* for all

Netanyahu's suspension of Western Wall deal leaves Jewish leaders feeling betrayed

By BEN SALES

(JTA) — They've tried strongly worded statements. They've tried private meetings with the prime minister. They've tried negotiations, protest and prayer.

But for the past five years, despite broad internal consensus and consistent pressure, the American Jewish establishment has been unable to persuade Israel's government to create an equitable space for non-Orthodox prayer at the Western Wall.

The latest setback in that fight came Sunday, when Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu announced the suspension of a 2016 agreement to expand the holy site's southern section, used for egalitarian prayer, and appoint an interdenominational commission to oversee it. The compromise was a result of three years of negotiations among the Jewish Agency for Israel, non-Orthodox leaders, the Israeli government and the Western Wall's haredi Orthodox management.

Work to expand the egalitarian section will continue during the suspension, Netanyahu's office said. But any new agreement would have to be negotiated by Israel's Cabinet and come to a new vote before moving forward.

The suspension is a result of pressure from Netanyahu's haredi Orthodox partners, who allowed the compromise to pass last year but

have since railed against it, blocking its implementation. American Jewish leaders had hailed the agreement last year as a step forward for Jewish pluralism and, at the time, Netanyahu called it a "fair and creative solution."

Now the American Jewish leaders who pushed for the agreement say they feel betrayed by Netanyahu. They will be meeting in Israel this week to discuss a response, and the Jewish Agency will hold a special session Monday to discuss the issue. But no leaders committed to concrete plans for a response, beyond continued vocal protest.

"It's deeply troubling and very disappointing that they would suspend the implementation of this resolution," Jerry Silverman, CEO of the Jewish Federations of North America, told JTA on Sunday. "We are going to be assertive in asking what's next."

Advocates for the agreement have warned of a crisis among American non-Orthodox Jews should the compromise collapse. Last year, Rabbi Rick Jacobs, president of the Union for Reform Judaism, said the collapse of the deal "will signal a very serious rupture in the relationship between North American Jewry and the State of Israel."

On Sunday, Jacobs expressed

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Thomas Coex/AFP/Getty Images

Jewish women praying in the women's section of the Western Wall in Jerusalem, May 16.

Exploring Judaism on campus

Jews from across the country find a community at Macalester College

By MAXWELL KENT

Alana Schreiber, a native New Yorker, found that assimilating to life at Macalester College involved questions of identity and ethnicity in a city with a much smaller Jewish population than her hometown.

"Being from New York, no one sticks out," she comments, regarding being Jewish in the Big Apple. "There is so much going on that you can't stick out. But so many people here did not grow up around Jews; so when I got here it was the first time I felt like I stuck out, because I was the outspoken, funny, Jewish girl."

Despite being at a school which prioritizes multiculturalism, Schreiber says she still has experienced micro-aggressions both on and off campus. She chalks up the incidents to students being unfamiliar with Jewish culture.

"One time I was at a party and a guy came up to me and told me, 'You're pretty for a Jew.' Another time I was counting quarters for the bus and someone was like 'Oh, you're so Jewish.'"

She adds, "I think a lot of people who did not grow up around Jews kind of look at it like the *Seinfeld* show in



Courtesy of Schreiber/Facebook

Zoe Beriss (left) and Alana Schreiber

the 'anti-dentite' episode and they're like, 'Oh, you joke about it, I can joke about it too.'"

(In the *Seinfeld* episode, Kramer rebukes Jerry for making an anti-dentist comment: "You think dentists are so different from me and you? They came to this country just like everybody else, in search of a dream.")

At the esteemed private liberal arts college in St. Paul, around 85 percent of students are from outside of Minnesota.

Likewise, the school's Jewish community reflects a range of backgrounds, which leads to varying perspectives on being a Jew on the campus.

Some members of Macalester's Jewish Organization (MJO) come from congregations in the Twin Cities; but the student-led organization has largely been a gathering place for Jews from all over the country, and the world, to share stories, celebrate holidays and discuss issues.

And the Jewish community at Macalester is not composed completely of students from multicultural cities like New York, where religious diversity prevails. For some, like Zoe Beriss, a junior who grew up in New Orleans, the Macalester community seems relatively more educated and understanding towards Jews.

"Compared to my hometown and growing up being like, one out of five Jews in my entire, 900-person high school, [Macalester] is a big change for me," Beriss says. "The majority of people I met [at Macalester] didn't ask dumb or uninformed questions about me being Jewish because, for the most part, they had grown up around Jews and kind of got it. At home though, I definitely felt like a 'token Jewish friend' and frequently met people who had never met anyone Jewish before."

Unlike Schreiber, Beriss explained how that greater understanding from the Macalester community has led to comparably fewer discriminatory remarks or micro-aggressions than she faced back home.

"I definitely don't think there have been any problems.... I think, honestly, any ignorance or anti-Semitic remarks I've

'It didn't concern the French'

Operation Yellow Star, by Maurice Rajsfus (translated by Phyllis Aronoff and Mike Mitchell), and *Black Thursday: The Roundup of July 16, 1942*, by Rajsfus (translated by Aronoff), DoppelHouse
276 pages, \$19.99

Reviewed by NEAL GENDLER

Seventy-five years have diminished neither Maurice Rajsfus' fury at the punctilious wartime collaboration of French police nor his distress at his countrymen's apparent indifference.

Anger, dismay and some sarcasm appear in Rajsfus' *Operation Yellow Star* and *Black Thursday*, two short books between the same covers. *Yellow Star* tells of its imposition, public reaction and the vigor of French police enforcement. *Black Thursday* begins with the July 16-17, 1942, roundup of 13,152 Jews, mostly foreign born, but soon turns to the author's frustrating attempt to find traces of that event in his suburban city of Vincennes' public records and memory.

France surrendered on June 22, 1940, splitting into a northern, German-occupied zone and an unoccupied zone based in Vichy, controlled by Marshal Philippe Pétain's collaborationist govern-

ment, to which French police swore allegiance. By war's end, more than 75,000 Jews had been deported from France.

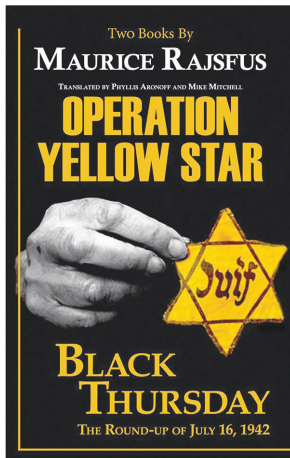
Rajsfus calls the yellow star part of Germany's four-step anti-Jewish program: marginalization, branding, exclusion, elimination. He describes how branding Jews with patches or clothing dates to medieval times. In 1942, Jews (who were already forbidden to own radios, enter entertainment venues, use

telephones or enter stores except from 3 to 4 p.m.) were ordered to go to police stations by June 7 to receive three stars per person — paying a clothing-ration coupon — for immediate wear.

Police discouraged gentiles' interaction with Jews, and newspapers fed a steady diet of hatred, asking that people inform against Jews and that the oppression be increased. Rajsfus devotes 12 pages to examples, Au Pilori saying: "At a later date we will suggest other prophylactic and sanitary measures" and later, "Now is the time to take up the club and bring it down on the spines of the Jews ... It is time to employ other means to rid ourselves of these Jewish vermin."

Zealous police stopped starless people they thought looked Jewish, arresting any who were. "The racist

• [RAJSFUS / see page 6](#)



• [JUDAISM / see page 15](#)

Twin Cities Calendar

JULY 4

CELEBRATION — Faith, family and friendship bring together Christian, Jewish and Muslim Minnesotans at our state’s first Abrahamic Tri-Faith Independence Day celebration of unity. The event will feature food trucks, music and kid-friendly activities. Additionally, three tents will provide space for each faith to offer worship, educational and service activities as well as art, music and storytelling. A common social space offers shared activities.

The event’s stage will feature entertainers of all three faiths including award-winning actor/singer Regina Marie Williams, songwriter/singer Ali Gray, pianist and jazz artist Mark Bloom and hip hop artist Brother Ali.

This Is America is designed and hosted by an Abrahamic Tri-

Faith coalition: The National Council of Jewish Women Minnesota, Rabata, Episcopal Church of St. James on the Parkway, Reviving Sisterhood, By the Rivers, Muslim & Jewish Women of Minnesota, and Daybreak Press. The larger goal of this coalition is to engage others throughout the Twin Cities to create an Abrahamic Tri-Faith Center. The center will honor and respect the uniqueness of Jewish, Christian and Islamic faiths and will provide opportunities to learn from one another and work together to address discrimination and injustice. 1 p.m. Tuesday, July 4 at the Episcopal Church of St. James on the Parkway, 3225 E. Minnehaha Parkway, Minneapolis. The event is free and tickets are not required. Bring a picnic lunch. Or look for food and drinks available for purchase from food trucks.

JULY 10

FILM — PACER Center presents a screening of the award-winning documentary *Who Cares about Kelsey?* by filmmaker Dan Habib. Kelsey Carroll has one goal — to graduate from high school — and plenty of reasons why she shouldn’t. She attends a school with one of the highest dropout rates in New Hampshire and has dealt with homelessness, sexual abuse and ADHD. As a freshman, she didn’t earn a single academic credit, but she did get suspended for dealing drugs. *Who Cares about Kelsey?* is the story of Kelsey’s transformation from a defiant and disruptive “problem student” to a motivated and self-confident young woman. The screening will occur at 6 p.m. Monday, July 10 at PACER Center, 8161 Normandale Blvd., Minneapolis. Q&A with a PACER advocate will follow the film. There is no cost to attend. To register, call PACER at 952-838-9000 or visit PACER.org/workshops.

JULY 12

EVENT — Hadassah Minneapolis presents its annual Schmoozathon. The lunchtime event will include smooth jazz music by Ivan Rafowitz. All proceeds from this event support Hadassah Hospital’s medical research. Play pool, ping-pong and other games or bring your swimsuit, sunscreen and towel for a swim in the pool overlooking Lake Minnetonka. You will also be able to visit the always changing craft co-op display and stock up on gifts for summer giving. Lunch is a dairy and pareve potluck brought by the attendees, or \$10 extra in lieu of food. Registration donation is \$25 in advance, to Hadassah Minneapolis, 13100 Wayzata Boulevard, #300, Minnetonka MN 55305, by July 5th, or \$30 at the door. You will be given appropriate details upon the receipt of your check and registration. 11 a.m. Wednesday, July 12. For further information contact nettgat@gmail.com or 952-545-1435, or visit hadassah.org.

JULY 18

PERFORMANCE — The Tzofim Friendship Caravan is a group of 10 energetic teenagers who are leaders in their Scout chapters in Israel. Together with two leaders, this caravan travels across North America, using song, dance and personal stories to share friendship and love for Israel.

The caravan has been visiting America for 40 years, and will be in Minnesota in the month of July, performing at Adath Jeshurun on July 17, Hildre Performance Center on July 18, Sholom Home West on July 19, St. Louis Park Rec Center on July 20, Rochester on July 23 and Sholom Home East on July 24. For information on specific performances visit israeliscoutmpls.com.

ONGOING

ART — *Inside/Outside: Exploring Boundaries and Otherness* is an expansive exhibit by the Jewish Artists’ Laboratory. Through the lens of art and Judaism, artists examined the questions: Who’s in and who’s out? What’s your bottom line? Who is considered the other? Through August 24; reception 6 p.m. June 29 at Sabes JCC’s Tychman Shapiro Gallery, 4330 Cedar Lake Road, St. Louis Park. For information visit sablesjcc.org or contact Robyn Awend at rawend@sablesjcc.org.

EXHIBIT — “This Is Hunger” is a first-of-its-kind free exhibit that brings participants face to face with the stark realities of hunger through state-of-the-art storytelling techniques and interactive elements.

The exhibit features black-and-white portraits by an internationally renowned photojournalist along with the stories of dozens of Americans who have had difficulty putting enough nutritious food on the table each day. Through digital and hands-on activities, “This Is Hunger” takes participants on a compelling journey that draws them into the real-life circumstances of these individuals and deepens their awareness about who in America struggles with hunger and why. Visitors are then encouraged to educate others and advocate for change. Through June 30 at Adath Jeshurun Congregation, 10500 Hillside Lane W., Minnetonka. For free ticket reservations and tour times, visit jfcsmpls.org or thisishunger.org.

ART — Visual art meets literary art when Sandra Brick “translates” 36 *Haiku* by Michael Paul Amram through shibori dyeing, embroidery and other forms of embellishment and surface design. Through July 1 at the Southeast Library, 1222 4th Street SE, Minneapolis. For information call 612-543-6725.

Minneapolis Jewish Federation sells its Minnetonka building

AJW Staff Report

The Minneapolis Jewish Federation has sold its building in Minnetonka, and will move out no later than March 2018.

The plan, which will be clarified at the Federation’s annual meeting, Aug. 9 at Temple Israel, is to relocate the offices at the Barry Family Campus. The Sabes JCC, Heilicher Minneapolis Jewish School and the Talmud Torah of Minneapolis are among the current tenants at the St. Louis Park campus.

The building sale was announced by James Cohen, the new Federation CEO, in an email sent June 23.

“Because the building was originally purchased with communal

funds, I want to assure everyone that all decisions regarding our future home and how the proceeds of the sale should be spent will be made with the interests of the entire community at heart,” said Cohen, in his email message. “I know I speak for everyone involved with Federation when I say that investing in the community’s future success is a top priority.”

Cohen — who previously served for four years as CEO of the United Jewish Federation of Greater Stamford, New Canaan and Darien, in Connecticut — said that the Federation is “assessing the various costs involved in the renovations that would be required wherever we call home.”

Jews were rounded up before dawn

• RAJSFUS / from page 1

nature of this step is obvious,” Rajsfus says. “The policemen of France were nothing more than an adjunct to the Gestapo operating in French uniform.”

It’s fair to ask whether — other than quitting — they had any choice. Refusing to obey an immoral order in a democracy is one thing, but perhaps quite another with the Gestapo looking over your shoulder.

Yet “nothing obliged these public servants to go beyond their orders ... constantly on the lookout for victims,” Rajsfus says. Police “made an effort to render the repression harder, even more inhumane.”

Yellow Star includes arrest records and correspondence — translated on facing pages — plus examples of fake stars, although not my favorite from the text, one containing the word “goy.”

The last chapter is mostly a tirade against police in general, not surprising from an author of more than 30 books who is described in publicity materials as a lifelong advocate for the oppressed and opponent of right-wing causes.

Black Thursday describes the July roundup. Rajsfus was 14, more boy than adolescent. His sister was 16. Pounding on the door before 5 a.m., two policemen — one a former neighbor — rushed the family through packing suitcases and dressing, then marched them to a formerly Jewish-owned house in which Vincennes’ 100 Jews were packed into two rooms.

After 10 or 11 hours, French-

born children over 14 were allowed to leave; Rajsfus’ mother handed his sister money, kissed them and said, “Leave fast.” He says: “I am alive today because my mother made that decision without hesitation,” not even asking her husband. His Polish-born parents and most others were bused to one of two way stations on the journey to death: Drancy, a French transit camp, or five days in the stifling Vél d’Hiv, an indoor velodrome, subject of a third book in this Rajsfus series due out in September.

He and his sister lived in the family apartment until hiding in June after word of a new roundup.

Rajsfus returned to Vincennes in the 1980s to find traces of the 1942 arrests. Official records seemed not to exist, although he found mention in an official’s memoir. Residents knew, or claimed to know, little or nothing. Most disgusting to him was the frequent brushoff: “I’m not interested.”

Rajsfus reveals more of himself in a 2016 interview at the end.

Except for their anti-police rants, these worthy books are quite interesting, despite their discouraging cost-saving tiny type — with near-microscopic footnotes — and no index.

Most telling, perhaps, is an elderly Vincennes man’s response to Rajsfus: “Ah, the Jews, it was their affair. It didn’t concern the French.”

Neal Gendler is a Minneapolis writer and editor.

Real Estate & Home Improvement

The American Jewish World will publish a special section in the July 14, 2017 edition, focusing on the real estate market and what’s new in home improvements.

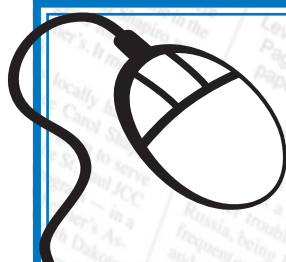
Reach homeowners in the Jewish community who are making a transition from a home to a condo or apartment, and those who are renovating the family home.

The AJW’s Real Estate & Home Improvement special section is a prime marketing opportunity for realtors, remodeling contractors, plumbers, electricians, landscapers, arborists, handypersons, and anyone offering goods and services to homeowners.

Deadline for ad space reservations in the Real Estate & Home Improvement special section is 12 p.m. **Wednesday, July 5, 2017.**

Contact Mordecai Specktor at 952.259.5234 or email: editor@ajwnews.com

The American Jewish World



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