



January 10, 2025

## A Note From Our Chair

This past holiday season I had the privilege of meeting and learning from the brave Matan Dadoun, an IDF reservist from Israel. What a wonderful opportunity for us all living in the diaspora to gain a greater understanding of the realities facing Israelis and soldiers every day. Thank you again to Line and Steven Troster members of our community for hosting this event and sharing this with all of us from the SGBJC.

We were delighted to see so many people who came out during the torrential downpour in Collingwood to join us in celebration of Hanukkah. How lovely to have met some of our members who are living here from Israel since the war broke out to more recent members who have made the jump out of the city to come live with us up north. The children had so much fun playing with one another in the gym, making Hanukkah crafts and enjoying some elaborate balloon twisting designs, and noshing on homemade Hanukkah cookies and latkes. Thank you to Cindy, Becky and Monique for making this all happen for us.

As we move into 2025 it is my hope that we continue to take every opportunity to educate ourselves and develop a deeper understanding of our new realities since October 7th, 2023. It's essential that we as Jews unite and support one another and our larger Jewish communities. At times like this we need each other more than ever and we will find our greatest strengths and comforts in one another.

### SGBJC Newsletter Highlights

A NOTE FROM OUR  
CHAIR

HIGHLIGHTS &  
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STAY IN TOUCH!

In honour of Holocaust Remembrance Day on January 27th, 2025, the SGBJC will be hosting a special event on Sunday, January 26th, at 1:30 PM at the Simcoe Theatre in Collingwood. Please join us for an afternoon of remembrance as Samuel Buckstein shares a conversation with his grandfather, Oscar Zaretsky, a Holocaust survivor. We invite you to participate—if you or a loved one has a personal story to share, we welcome your contribution after the presentation. Your voice is important in continuing this essential conversation. To share your story or RSVP, please email us at: [shalom@sgbjc.ca](mailto:shalom@sgbjc.ca).

Due to popular demand, we're excited to host another Women's Luncheon to kick off the new year! What better way to start 2025 than by coming together to socialize, connect, and enjoy a delicious lunch with the amazing women in our community. The luncheon will take place on Thursday, January 23, 2025, from 12:00 PM to 2:00 PM at Pur & Simple (2 Mountain Rd., Building B, Unit 002, Collingwood). It's a wonderful opportunity to engage in great conversation, make new connections, and enjoy each other's company. Please note that each attendee is responsible for covering the cost of their own meals and drinks. If you'd like to join us, simply RSVP by emailing [shalom@sgbjc.ca](mailto:shalom@sgbjc.ca). We can't wait to see you there!

If you haven't already, please sign up on our website and pay your yearly membership fees so that we can continue to offer Jewish education, programming, and events to our Jewish community in the area. You can easily send your membership dues by e-transferring \$180 to [shalom@sgbjc.ca](mailto:shalom@sgbjc.ca), or by mailing a cheque made out to "Southern Georgian Bay Jewish Community" to 307 Pine Street, Collingwood, ON, L9Y 2P4. If you feel so inclined to do more, please don't hesitate to reach out. We welcome and encourage greater support from our community. Your assistance means a great deal to those of us who are passionate about fighting antisemitism, raising awareness, and building a strong Jewish community that will be sustainable for all Jewish people in Southern Georgian Bay.

May we rise together from the ashes of persecution and oppression stronger and better than ever!

Am Israel Chai,  
Rashell Feldman  
Chair of SGBJC

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### A NOTE FROM OUR CHAIR

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### HIGHLIGHTS & MEMORIES FROM OUR DECEMBER EVENTS

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### UPCOMING EVENTS

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### GET INVOLVED

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### STAY IN TOUCH!

# Highlights & Memories from Our December Events:



## Hanukkah Learning & Fun: Kid's Jewish Learning Group Ceramic Tile Painting

At the beginning of December, we kicked off the Hanukkah season with our monthly Kid's Jewish Learning program.

The children had a blast painting Hanukkah Ceramic Menorah Tiles at The Paint Bar, while Monique and Rashell shared the story of Hanukkah and the prayers for lighting the menorah.

Between painting, colouring, delicious treats, and a game of dreidel, it was a memorable afternoon for everyone. Thank you to all the families who joined us! We look forward to seeing you at our next meet-up in February. Stay tuned for more details!

## Hanukkah Window Display at Town Hall

One of our community members, Ellen Oelbaum, created a stunning Hanukkah window display at Collingwood Town Hall, beautifully capturing the spirit of the holiday. The display featured a menorah, dreidel, gelt, books, and other traditional items that reflected the joy and meaning of Hanukkah.

A special thank you to Ellen for her incredible work, to the Feldmans for organizing and securing the space, and to the talented young artists from our SGBJC community—Skyler, Molly, Bowie, Jackie, Leo, Ira, Lola, and Brielle—whose vibrant artwork brought the display to life.

This display is a proud reminder of our heritage, and it's important that we continue sharing and celebrating our Jewish identity. May the light of the menorah shine brightly for many years to come!



# Highlights & Memories from Our December Events:



## Our Hanukkah Party & Celebration

Our Hanukkah Party for the SGBJC community was a huge success! Hosted at the fun and spacious All Around Athletics in Collingwood, the event was filled with excitement and celebration. The children enjoyed crafting Hanukkah decorations, playing games, and having a blast in the gym. We were also entertained by the incredible balloon twisting of Roxanne from U-Pick Parties, who amazed us with her creative designs—including a balloon menorah! Guests also enjoyed delicious potato latkes and homemade Hanukkah shortbread cookies. A special thank you to Cindy, Becky, and Monique for organizing such a wonderful event, and to everyone who joined us for a memorable day of fun and celebration!

# Upcoming Events



**THURSDAY JANUARY 23 - 12:00 PM TO 2:00 PM**

## Women's Luncheon Event

Based on popular demand, we're excited to host another Women's Luncheon to kick off the new year! What better way to start 2025 than by coming together to socialize, connect, and enjoy a delicious lunch with the amazing women in our community.

**WHEN:** Thursday, January 23, 2025

**TIME:** 12:00 pm - 2:00 pm

**LOCATION:** Pur & Simple  
(2 Mountain Rd. Building B, Unit 002, Collingwood)

Join us for an afternoon of great conversation and new connections. Each attendee is responsible for covering the cost of their own meals and drinks.

**RSVP:** Please let us know if you'll be attending by emailing [shalom@sbgjc.ca](mailto:shalom@sbgjc.ca). We can't wait to see you there!

**SUNDAY JANUARY 26- 1:30 PM - 3:00 PM**

## Holocaust Remembrance Ceremony

In Honour of Holocaust Remembrance Day

**Date:** Sunday, January 26th, 2025

**Time:** 1:30 PM - 3:00 PM

**Location:** Simcoe Street Theatre  
(66 Simcoe Street, Collingwood)

Please join us for a special afternoon as Samuel Buckstein shares his conversation with his grandfather, Oscar Zaretsky, a Holocaust survivor. This moving presentation will honour the memory of those lost, as well as celebrate the resilience and survival of those who endured.

We invite you to participate: If you or a loved one has a personal story to share, we welcome your contribution after the presentation. Your voice is important in continuing this essential conversation.

To share your story or RSVP please email us at: [shalom@sbgjc.ca](mailto:shalom@sbgjc.ca)

We are grateful for the support of our extended community. Let us come together to remember, reflect, and ensure the lessons of the Holocaust live on.

A poster for the Holocaust Remembrance Ceremony. The top half features a close-up of lit candles. The bottom half features a photo of Samuel Buckstein and his grandfather Oscar Zaretsky. The text on the poster includes: 

**Holocaust Remembrance Ceremony**

**IN HONOUR OF HOLOCAUST REMEMBRANCE DAY**

PLEASE JOIN US FOR A SPECIAL AFTERNOON AS SAMUEL BUCKSTEIN SHARES HIS CONVERSATION WITH HIS GRANDFATHER, OSCAR ZARETSKY, A HOLOCAUST SURVIVOR.

THIS MOVING PRESENTATION WILL HONOR THE MEMORY OF THOSE LOST, AS WELL AS CELEBRATE THE RESILIENCE AND SURVIVAL OF THOSE WHO ENDURED.

LET US NOT FORGET.  
WE LOOK FORWARD TO SEEING YOU THERE.

**SUNDAY JANUARY 26, 2025** 1:30 PM - 3:00 PM  
Simcoe Street Theatre  
(66 Simcoe Street, Collingwood)

Please RSVP at [shalom@sbgjc.ca](mailto:shalom@sbgjc.ca)

**CARRYING TESTIMONY**  
FROM GENERATION TO GENERATION

# Get Involved & Stay Connected

## How to become a member and support our community

To become a member of the Southern Georgian Bay Jewish Community, simply sign up on our website and submit your yearly membership dues of \$180. You can send your payment via e-transfer to [shalom@sbgjc.ca](mailto:shalom@sbgjc.ca), or if you prefer, mail a cheque made out to "Southern Georgian Bay Jewish Community" to 307 Pine Street, Collingwood, ON, L9Y 2P4. Your membership helps support our ongoing efforts to provide Jewish education, programming, and community events. We thank you for your support and look forward to welcoming you as a member of our community!

## Are you a member of our members-only Facebook group yet?

There are lots of ways to stay in touch. We will continue to send out our regular newsletters. Don't forget to check out our members-only private Facebook group "Southern Georgian Bay Jewish Community" and our public Instagram account [@sbg\\_jc](https://www.instagram.com/sbg_jc)



## Have any ideas for future events?

Our executive team meets regularly to plan events and liaise with outside organizations. If you have any suggestions for future activities, keep them coming by emailing [shalom@sbgjc.ca](mailto:shalom@sbgjc.ca).

**Join our mailing list by filling out a form  
at [www.sbgjc.ca](http://www.sbgjc.ca)**