



November 4, 2025

## A Note From Our Chair

I am excited to announce that thanks to the outstanding efforts of our executive board member Ellen Oelbaum, with support from Hillary Mitchell, Rashell Feldman, and our executive team, enough money was raised so the **Towns of Collingwood, Thornbury and Wasaga Beach** will from now on have public decorative menorahs for display over the entire holiday season. One of the singular fundraising events we held this fall was apple picking at the Liebermanor Orchard. Thank you to those who generously donated on behalf of this initiative, and to **Alexandra Smith** from **End Jew Hatred** for partnering with us to provide charitable tax receipts for donors. Everyone's hard work and support made all the difference.

As the fall nights lengthen, the Festival of Lights is a time to celebrate our resiliency, perseverance and ability to come together as a people, and triumph over adversity. What better time of year to remind ourselves of our heritage, of what we are made of, of what we stand for, and of what we are capable of achieving together, than during Hanukkah.

Every Jewish holiday when we say "l'dor va'dor," we remind ourselves of how we as a people were, and are, affected by ancient events, whether it's by reading the Haggadah or eating under the stars during Sukkot. This Hanukkah is no different. We are a people who saw and lived miracles. We were, and are, and always will be the people of the Maccabees. And this year's holiday is especially significant because **our living hostages have finally returned home** and there is at last hope for some much needed peace and healing.

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In celebration of Hanukkah, might we consider that these festival lights are deeply symbolic. The lights of Hanukkah are more than mere candles for commemoration of ancient events. They remind us that we honour our past by how we live in the present. The light of Hanukkah is not just the light we see, but it is the light we feel, and the light we live through our personal duty to live honourably. Thus, by **“living right, each and every one of us shall be a light”**. During these trying times, our miracle is that we still continue to rise above, unite as one, and lean into the way of life which is a gift that has been bestowed upon us by our ancestors.

Please join us for donuts and hot chocolate as we light up our menorah in the heart of **Collingwood on Saturday November 22nd at 7pm, at 84 Hurontario St.** Let's spread our light and share in this with our greater Collingwood community.



Mark your calendars for us to then light up the menorah at the gazebo in the **Town of Wasaga Beach on Saturday November 29th at 7pm at Oakview Woods Park, 1724 Mosley St.** Hot chocolate and donuts to follow.

Stay tuned for further information with respect to the lighting of our other menorah.

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In addition to warming up to hot chocolate as we light our menorahs, there are ample opportunities to do things together indoors. The SGBJC is hosting a **book club on Wednesday November 26 at 7 PM**, and the featured book is Hostage, by former hostage Eli Sharabi. Please **RSVP to [shalom@sgbjc.ca](mailto:shalom@sgbjc.ca)** for location and event details.

WEDNESDAY NOVEMBER 26TH  
7PM  
COLLINGWOOD



SGBJC BOOKCLUB

HOSTAGE

ELI SHARABI

ELI SHARABI, A SURVIVOR OF 491 DAYS IN HAMAS CAPTIVITY, RECOUNTS THE HARROWING ORDESL OF HIS ABDUCTION FROM KIBBUTZ BE'ERI ON OCT 7<sup>TH</sup>, 2023, THE LOSS OF HIS WIFE AND DAUGHTERS, AND HIS UNYEILYRESOLVEVTO SURVIVE.

RSVP [shalom@sgbjc.ca](mailto:shalom@sgbjc.ca)

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STAY IN TOUCH!



# Rosh Hashanah Libermanor Apple Picking

An unseasonably warm October day was perfect for our apple picking fundraiser. It was amazing how many people figured out they had family and friendship connections dating back decades, as well as new friendships were kindled.



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# Next Up...

And on **Sunday December 21**, we will have a **community Hanukkah party at Georgian Bowl in Collingwood**, featuring traditional food, festivities, and of course, bowling. The event is sponsored in part by a generous donation from Peter Seligman. If you wish to attend, tickets can be purchased from Eventbrite for \$36/family (includes bowling, shoe rental, latkes, and donuts) at the link below. If you wish to help sponsor this event, please reach out to me at [shalom@sbgjc.ca](mailto:shalom@sbgjc.ca).

For tickets, go to <https://tinyurl.com/5n8b3n2t>

**SUNDAY DECEMBER 21ST**



**GEORGIAN BOWL 3:30 TO 5:30**

All of the advocacy and programming and bringing Jewish life into Southern Georgian Bay communities is carried out by a dedicated executive board who are all volunteering their time, and your support counts!

If you haven't donated already, please visit <https://tinyurl.com/269hxb8w> to make a tax-deductible donation to support this and other programming in the future. And if you haven't paid your membership dues for 5786, please send an e-transfer of \$180 to [shalom@sbgjc.ca](mailto:shalom@sbgjc.ca) to support our community.

May we continue to be the light unto the nations.

Rashell Feldman  
Chair, Southern Georgian Bay Jewish Community

**Am Yisrael Chai!**



Join our mailing list by filling out the form on our website

[www.southerngeorgianbayjewishcommunity.com](http://www.southerngeorgianbayjewishcommunity.com)