



September 6, 2026

A Note From Our Chair

As we say goodbye to the lazy days of summer, it is time to celebrate the New Year!

Rosh Hashanah arrives early this autumn and marks the beginning of the High Holy Days — the sacred stretch of ten days culminating in Yom Kippur. Rosh Hashanah is welcomed with a blend of joy and solemn reflection. It commemorates the creation of the world and the birth of humanity. This holiday has a distinctive dual character: festive gratitude for the gift of a new beginning, and honest introspection about the year that has passed.

The rituals of ushering in the new year are rich with symbolism. Families gather around the table as candles are lit and blessings are recited over wine and round challah bread — its circular shape evoking the cyclical nature of the year and the crown of divine sovereignty. Apples dipped in honey express the collective wish for a sweet year ahead, and many tables feature pomegranates, whose many seeds symbolize abundance and the multitude of good deeds one hopes to accomplish. The greeting "*Shanah Tovah u'Metukah*" — a good and sweet year — passes warmly between friends, family, and strangers alike.

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NATIONAL DAY OF SERVICE

BE THE LIGHT & FALL
HARVEST

BOOK CLUB –
SEPTEMBER &
NOVEMBER

At the heart of the observance is the sound of the shofar, a ram's horn whose piercing blasts echo through synagogues around the world. The shofar is both a call to spiritual awakening and a reminder of ancient covenants — a summons to examine one's conduct, seek forgiveness from those we have wronged, and return to our better selves. This process, known as *teshuvah* (repentance or return), is not confined to the synagogue; it spills into homes, phone calls, and long-overdue conversations, as people make amends before Yom Kippur seals the year's judgment.

In this way, ushering in the Jewish new year is less about celebration for its own sake and more about renewal — a sacred pause to remember who we are, who we hope to become, and the sweetness we wish for one another in the days to come.

We at the Southern Georgian Bay Jewish Community wish you all Shana Tova and we look forward to the many opportunities in this new year to connect, to celebrate, to educate and to accomplish as many good deeds as possible together.

Rashell Feldman, President & Chair
Southern Georgian Bay Jewish Community

National Day of Service

This year marks the 25th anniversary of September 11, and as the day comes to a close, Rosh Hashanah begins at sundown — bringing together a meaningful moment of remembrance, reflection, service and hope.

Canada's National Day of Service honours the remarkable acts of compassion that followed 9/11. Across Canada, communities opened their doors to stranded travelers, while first responders, members

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of the Canadian Armed Forces, healthcare workers, volunteers and everyday citizens stepped forward to help.

For our SGBJC community, 9/11 has a personal connection through Maureen Basnicki, whose husband, Ken, was killed in the attacks on the World Trade Center. Maureen has worked to help redefine September 11 as not only a day associated with tragedy, but also one that inspires people to volunteer, give back and serve their communities.

That message feels particularly meaningful as we enter Rosh Hashanah. The Jewish New Year is a time for reflection, renewal and looking toward the year ahead with purpose and hope.

On this 25th anniversary, National Day of Service offers us an opportunity to honour those we lost, recognize those who stepped forward in a time of tremendous need, and acknowledge those who continue to serve our communities every day.

May we carry their example forward through compassion, generosity and care for one another – and enter the New Year with hope for a kinder and more peaceful world.

You can learn more about Maureen's initiatives at <https://www.serviceday.ca/>



“Be the Light” at Our Fall Harvest Event

Be the Light will be joining us at our upcoming orchard event—a wonderful opportunity to gather with friends and family while learning more about the organizations making a meaningful difference throughout Southern Georgian Bay.

Be the Light is rooted in Tikkun Olam, the quintessential Jewish value of helping to repair the world. It encourages each of us to turn kindness into action by giving our time, sharing our skills and supporting the people and organizations that care for our community.

For more on Be the Light:

<https://southerngeorgianbayjewishcommunity.com/be-the-light>

- Home Horizon, supporting youth facing homelessness
- Common Thread, the social enterprise thrift store supporting My Friend's House
- Georgian Triangle Humane Society, caring for animals and the people who love them
- Collingwood General & Marine Hospital Foundation, helping strengthen healthcare close to home
- Mobile Soup Kitchen, providing food and care to those in need
- This is only the beginning. We will continue to welcome local organizations and expand the opportunities to connect, contribute and make a difference.

Stop at our table to learn more about these organizations, the services they provide and the many ways you can become involved. Whether through volunteering, donating or simply helping to spread awareness, every act of kindness matters. Together, we can support the people, animals and essential services that make our community stronger—and continue to Be the Light for one another.

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BE THE LIGHT –
TIKKUN OLAM

FALL HARVEST APPLE
PICKING

BOOK CLUBS



The poster features a background of green foliage and red apples. At the top left, a branch with several red apples hangs down. The main title 'FALL HARVEST' is in large, bold, green letters. Below it, 'At Kennedy Orchard' is written in a cursive font. The date 'SEPTEMBER 26TH' and time '1PM TO 4PM' are in bold red and black text. A list of activities is on the left, and a box with admission and apple prices is on the right. The SGBJC logo is in the top right corner.

SGBJC
SOUTHERN GEORGIAN BAY
JEWISH COMMUNITY

FALL HARVEST

At Kennedy Orchard

SEPTEMBER 26TH
1PM TO 4PM

U PICK VISIT INCLUDES:

- TRACTOR WAGON RIDES
- CORN MAZE
- CHILDREN'S ACTIVITY AREA
- LOCAL VENDORS / BAKED GOODS
- U PICK MACINTOSH AND EMPIRE APPLES
- APPLE CIDER

ADMISSION IS \$5.00 PER PERSON

APPLES ARE \$2.35/LBS.

KENNEDY ORCHARD
56 BATTEAUX RD
NOTTAWA, ON
L0M 1P0

Join us for a fun fall afternoon at Kennedy Orchard! Bring your family, invite your friends, and enjoy everything the orchard has to offer: Tractor wagon rides, a corn maze, children's activities, local vendors and baked goods, apple cider – and, of course, apple picking! Everyone is welcome – come spend the afternoon with us, meet new people, and enjoy a beautiful fall day in Southern Georgian Bay. Bring the kids, bring the grandparents, bring a friend – we'd love to see you there!

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FALL HARVEST

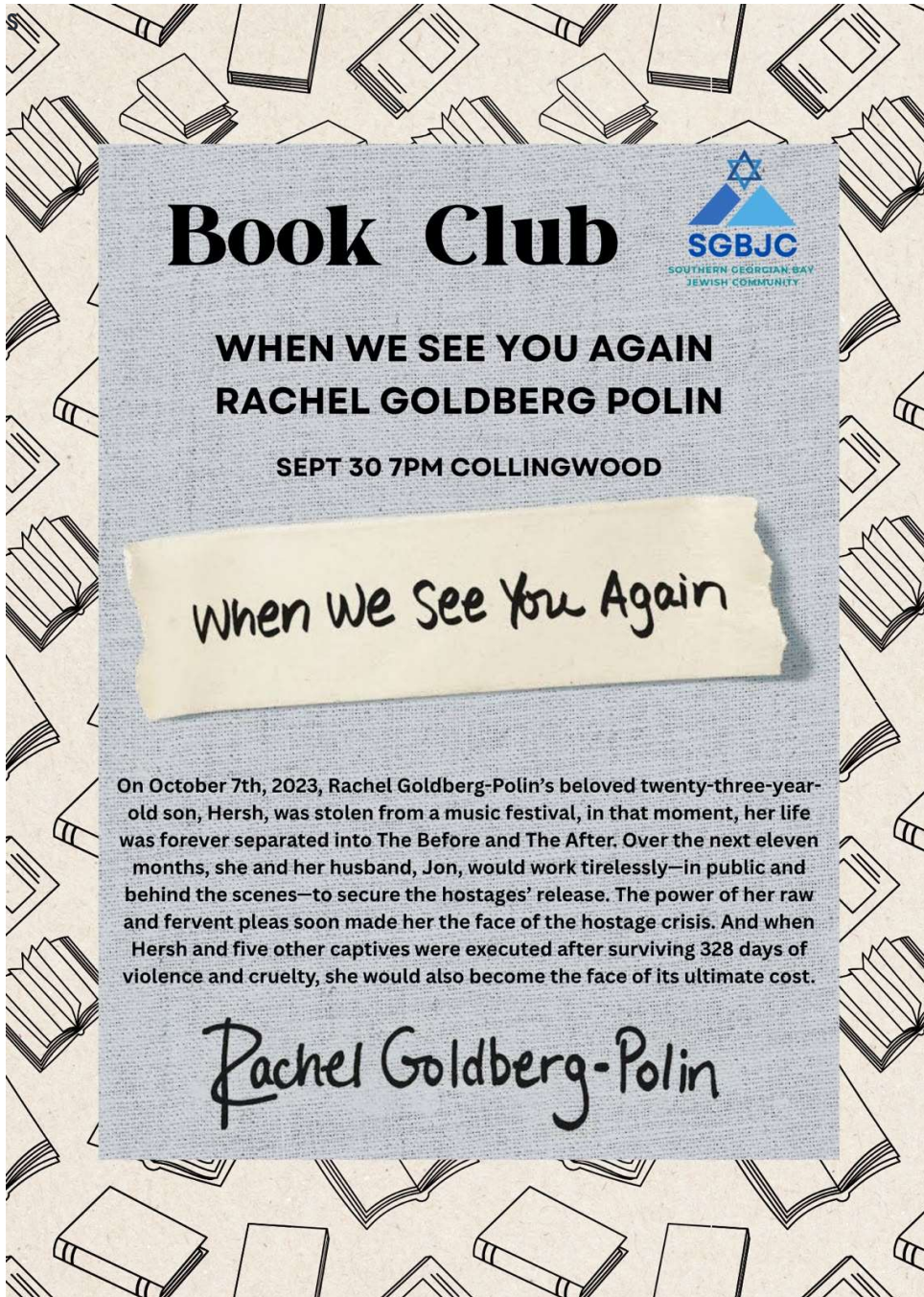
SEPTEMBER BOOK CLUB

NOVEMBER BOOK CLUB

Book Club

We have two book club evenings planned. RSVP to shalom@sbgjc.ca for location details.

September Book Club



Book Club

WHEN WE SEE YOU AGAIN
RACHEL GOLDBERG POLIN

SEPT 30 7PM COLLINGWOOD

When We See You Again

On October 7th, 2023, Rachel Goldberg-Polin's beloved twenty-three-year-old son, Hersh, was stolen from a music festival, in that moment, her life was forever separated into The Before and The After. Over the next eleven months, she and her husband, Jon, would work tirelessly—in public and behind the scenes—to secure the hostages' release. The power of her raw and fervent pleas soon made her the face of the hostage crisis. And when Hersh and five other captives were executed after surviving 328 days of violence and cruelty, she would also become the face of its ultimate cost.

Rachel Goldberg-Polin

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SEPTEMBER BOOK CLUB

NOVEMBER BOOK CLUB

ANNUAL DUES 5787

IDEAS FOR ROSH
HASHANAH

November Book Club



Join us for
Book Club
Wednesday
November 25
7 PM
Collingwood

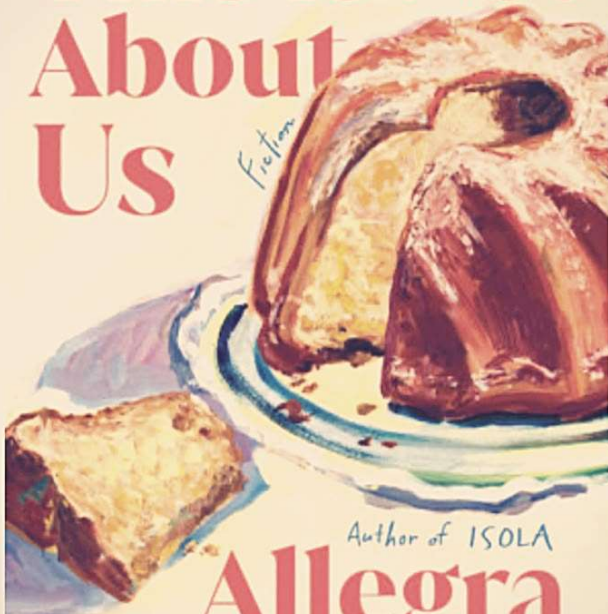
SGBJC

GOOD BOOKS, GOOD FOOD AND GOOD COMPANY

*"Goodman is brilliant at capturing the clutter of both interior and exterior life."
—Los Angeles Times*

This Is Not About Us

Fiction



Author of ISOLA

Allegra Goodman

BOOK CLUB

RSVP: SHALOM@SGBJC.CA

When their beloved older sister passes away, Sylvia and Helen Rubinstein are unmoored. A misunderstanding about apple cake turns into decades of stubborn silence. Busy with their own lives—divorces, dating, career setbacks, college applications, bat mitzvahs and ballet recitals—their children do not want to get involved. As for their grandchildren? Impossible. *This Is Not About Us* is a story of growing up and growing old, the weight of parental expectations, and the complex connection between sisters. A big-hearted book about the love that binds a family across generations.

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NOVEMBER BOOK CLUB

ANNUAL DUES 5787

HOLIDAY IDEAS

HONEY APPLE CAKE

Membership Dues - 5787

Now that the new year is upon us, our yearly dues that help support our expenses are due. \$180/family or \$90 per individual. [We are all volunteers.](#) Dues cover insurance, programs, facility rental, website hosting, and other expenses. E-transfer: shalom@sgbjc.ca

Holiday Ideas

A simple table inspired by the season and the traditions of Rosh Hashanah. Apples and pomegranates bring colour and meaning, while fresh eucalyptus and candlelight keep the setting natural and understated. Layer in warm neutrals, simple dinnerware and a touch of texture to create a table that feels welcoming without being overdone.



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HOLIDAY IDEAS

Easy Honey Apple Cake

Ingredients

2½ cups flour
2 tsp baking powder
1 tsp cinnamon
½ tsp salt
3 eggs
¾ cup honey
½ cup brown sugar
½ cup vegetable oil
½ cup orange juice
1 tsp vanilla
3 apples, peeled and chopped

Directions

Mix eggs, honey, sugar, oil, orange juice and vanilla.
Stir in flour, baking powder, cinnamon and salt.
Fold in apples.
Pour into a greased Bundt or cake pan.
Bake at 350° F for 45-55 minutes.
Cool and drizzle with a little honey before serving.



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