



# JFFW ANNUAL MEETING

# President's Report



Flight 766 was full and the passengers were waiting for the pilots. Needless to say, they were astonished when a man with dark glasses made his way on board, literally feeling his way to the cockpit. A second person, led by a Seeing Eye dog, arrived and also entered the captain's cabin.

The passengers were a bit nervous at first, but then they felt certain that this had all been the pilots' strange sense of humor. When the engines started up, the passengers watched as the plane headed down the runway. But instead of lifting off, the plane kept speeding down the runway until the passengers could see the end of the runway fast approaching.

"Aieeee!" they shouted. "Oh my!" others chimed in. The passengers now realized that the two blind pilots had not been joking. The closer the plane came to the end of the runway, the more hysterical the passengers became. At the last moment, just as everyone was certain that the plane would overrun the runway, and as their screams reached new heights, the plane lifted off, just clearing the runway.

Meanwhile in the cockpit, one pilot said to the other: "You know, one day the passengers will be too scared to scream, and then we'll never know when to take off." The passengers on the airplane had unwittingly been given a test by the flights' pilots and, in the nick of time, they barely passed the test.

So what is the nature of the 'test' that is in front of us as members of the Jewish Federation of Fort Wayne? I would argue that one important, if not the most important, test is to be a strong, unified community. But that then begs the question: 'What is a community?'... and where to go for an answer... how about our old friend, the Merriam-Webster dictionary!

Definition 1: 'a group of people living together as a smaller social unit within a larger one and having interests, work, in common.' Clearly, we, the members of the Federation, fit that definition. But that definition, having interests in common, does not capture our true unique sense of community. We have a common interest, Judaism, but there is so much more that binds us as a community.

So we move on to the second definition: 'ownership or participation in common'. Now I believe we are getting closer to a truer reflection of the word 'community'. Many of us, and I encourage even larger numbers, actively participate in the life of the Federation – we attend Federation events like this one, we serve on various Federation committees, we are on the Board of Directors. And, in addition, many of us take the idea of 'ownership' to heart: for example, if we want to ensure that an event will be successful, we are involved in its preparation; we attend; we encourage others to attend. I wonder how many Jewish communities much larger than ours show such unity and sense of purpose.

We take ownership when we answer the call when asked to be a committee chairperson, or agreeing to be an Officer. I publically thank all of you for not only participating but in taking ownership – sometimes this ownership might be very visible. And sometimes the ownership is less visible, more private – things done behind the scenes. In Jaki's report, you heard about some of the activities that bind us as a community.

I would be remiss to mention how important your contributions to the Annual Campaign are. Both time and money are essential ingredients, and go hand in hand, to ensure that Federation remains vibrant.

In closing, I cannot emphasize enough that Federation belongs to each and every one of us. Make your voice heard on how to improve the workings of the Federation and how to strengthen our sense of community. Help us generate ideas for programs and services and become actively involved so that events can become a reality. For if we do not step up to the challenge, who will? And, to quote the famous passage, if not now, when? Perhaps the most appropriate definition of 'community' also can be found in Webster's dictionary – that of a 'fellowship'.

-Dr. Ron Friedman

## The End is Near!

HAVE YOU SENT IN YOUR PLEDGE FOR 2015-16?

Photos by Marv Gottlieb

**JEWISH FEDERATION  
OF FORT WAYNE  
Campaign Update**

Your donation to Federation is an investment in the Jewish community. This year Federation priorities include helping the needy, engaging the unaffiliated, and as always, supporting Israel and our Jewish brothers and sisters around the world. The Jewish community exists for you and because of you.

**\$171,918.00** as of 6-21-16



# The End is Near!

## HAVE YOU SENT IN YOUR PLEDGE FOR 2015-16?

The 2015-16 Campaign will officially come to an end at 11:59 p.m. on July 14<sup>th</sup>. Make sure you can be counted among those who have stepped up to assure that we continue to improve the quality of life and education for people in our community, in Israel, and in over 70 countries each and every day. ■

## SIGN UP NOW!

Scholarships available to those who qualify.



The start of Camp Joe Levine nears, and we are finalizing our plans. This year's program will include many creative

activities, fun games, and exciting adventures. As always, our Israeli counselors are bringing to



Camp Joe a wonderful Judaica program to teach our children about Israel. The lake, the Nature Center, the trails, and, of course, our dedicated staff, all anxiously await

your child's arrival.

We hope that you can join us this summer. Camp applications are available online at [www.fwjf.org](http://www.fwjf.org). If you have any questions or would like a camp application to be mailed to you, please contact the Jewish Federation of Fort Wayne at 260-456-0400.

We hope to hear from you soon. We look forward to sharing this great camping experience with your child. ♦



We want all children to have an opportunity to attend a Jewish camp. Assistance is available for campers.

# Recipes for Summer

## GINGERED FRUIT PUNCH

### INGREDIENTS

- 9 cups water, divided
- 1/4 cup minced fresh ginger
- 1/4 cup honey or pure maple syrup
- 1/4 cup molasses
- 3/4 cup lemon juice
- 1/4 cup cider vinegar
- Fresh berries, mint sprigs, or citrus slices for garnish



### PREPARATION

1. Combine 3 cups water with ginger in a small saucepan. Bring to a boil over medium-high heat. Boil for 2 minutes. Remove from the heat, cover and let infuse for 15 minutes.
2. Strain the ginger-infused water into a pitcher, pressing on the ginger solids to extract all the liquid.
3. Add honey (or maple syrup) and molasses; stir until dissolved.
4. Stir in lemon juice, vinegar and the remaining 6 cups water. Chill until very cold, at least 2 hours or overnight.
5. Stir the punch and serve in tall glasses over ice cubes. Garnish with berries, mint sprigs or lemon slices, if desired.

6-8 servings ■

## Janet Finkel, Winner of the Goldie DuBow Award



We are delighted to announce that Jan Finkel is the recipient of the Goldie DuBow Award for exceptional volunteerism in the Fort Wayne Jewish community.

Jan has selflessly contributed in many ways to our community; her eagerness to volunteer and willingness to help others in need are exemplary. She is truly deserving of this year's highest honor for volunteerism.

Congratulations Jan!



## REDEDICATION OF JEWISH CEMETERY TENTATIVELY SET FOR AUGUST 28