

# Community unites in support of Israel

## ISRAEL SOLIDARITY RALLY

Thursday, July 27, 2006  
7:30pm

Congregation Beth El  
Myers Hall

422 Shirley Avenue - Norfolk

Your attendance is vital.  
Stand strong with the Jewish community.  
Show your support for the brave citizens of Israel.

Shoulder to shoulder... Heart to heart

SPONSORED BY THE COMMUNITY RELATIONS COUNCIL OF THE  
UNITED JEWISH FEDERATION OF TIDEWATER  
FOR FURTHER INFORMATION, CALL 954-1100



by Amy Zelenka  
director of marketing,  
United Jewish Federation of Tidewater

It seems like the flags are still waving from the last Israel Rally held in Tidewater in 2000, then, in the wake of the onset of the last Intifada. All too soon, the Tidewater Jewish community is rallying again to support the land of Israel in a dark and painful hour.

Some would say that this time is different. This time the enemy is not cloaked in disguise, smuggling bomb belts onto crowded buses in the heart of rush hour



Harry Graber,  
UJFT executive vice president



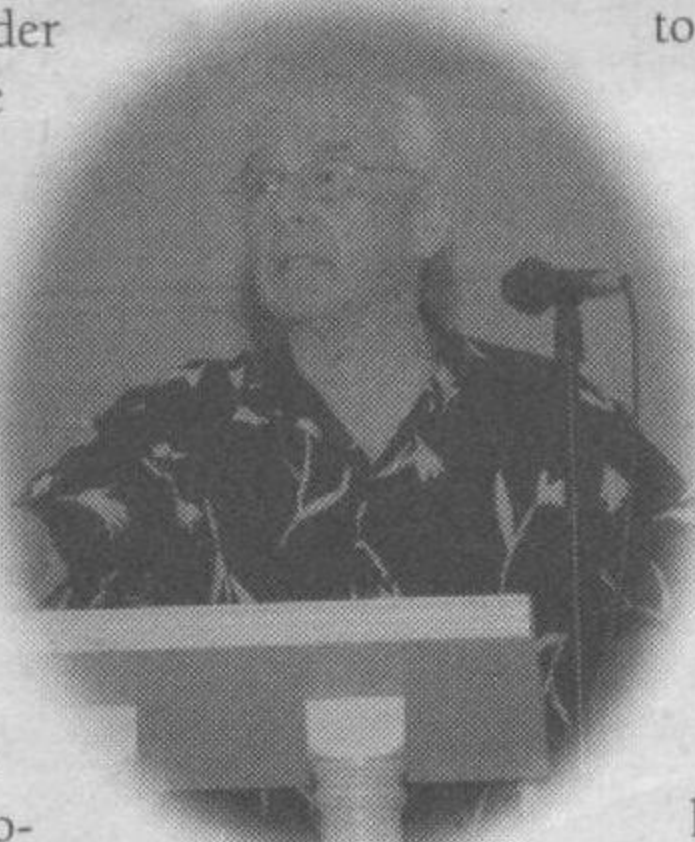
Dolores Bartel

and heart to heart with the people of Israel in a more than 400 person rally staged at Congregation Beth El in Norfolk, and arranged by United Jewish Federation of Tidewater. Voices raised in hope sang out the lyrics to Hatikvah. Fay Silverman, Community Relations Council chairman, read words of support from elected officials. Personal stories of grief and hardship were relayed

traffic. This time, the enemy has revealed itself in the form of Hezbollah, and its rockets are falling daily on the beautiful cities of northern Israel.

Others would argue that this time is not so very different from the past. The world once again cries out in "righteous indignation" as Israel seeks to defend its people and its borders, criticizing Israel's overreaction and citing Israel's refusal to negotiate a ceasefire (with an honorable and trustworthy adversary like Násrallah!).

On Thursday evening, July 27, the Jewish community of Tidewater once again took up the mantle—standing shoulder to shoulder



Dr. Robert Rubin

by Nataly Fleishman whose family fled the bombings in the North and sought refuge with other family members in the center of the country. Still, some members of her family remain in the North, running for the bomb shelters at each chilling call of the sirens. Rabbi



Cantor Jacob Tessler leads the singing of the Star Spangled Banner

Zoberman spoke about his sadness and outrage at the enemy who dared to bomb his beautiful city of Haifa (a city in which so many Holocaust survivors, including his own family, sought and found a literal and figurative safe harbor after the horrors of Nazi Germany).

Finally, instructions were given about how individuals could help. Those instructions are reiterated on this page.

"Israel is a well-spring in the wilderness," wrote Senator George Allen in his letter of support to the community. Alan Frieden, UJFT president, expanded that idea in his closing remarks as he drew the

parallels between the fights being waged by the United States in places like Iraq and Aghanistan with those being fought by Israel in Lebanon and in Gaza. "Israel is a country surrounded by enemies—

seeking to defend its borders and its citizens as well as the principles of democracy that we Americans share. We expect no less," said Frieden. "As Americans we support our own brave soldiers and sailors serving in harms way around the globe—also fighting against terrorism and to defend the ideals of democracy. As American Jews, we support the brave men and women of the IDF seeking to do the same."



Nataly Fleishman



Rabbi Rosalyn Mandelberg



More than 400 people at Beth El in support of Israel