

Temple Beth Sholom

July 2015 5775

Rabbi Elliot Rosenbaum

חזק חזק ונתחזק
Be strong, be strong, and may we be strengthened.

Oy! Do we eat or not?

Saturday, July 4th, 2015 was not just Independence Day this year. It was also the 17th of Tammuz, a minor, little known, fast day on the Hebrew calendar which commemorates the breach of Jerusalem's walls by the Romans in the year 70 that led to the destruction of the Second Temple.

The day also marks the beginning of the three-week mourning period leading to Tisha b'Av, the Jewish National Day of Mourning.

The 17th of Tammuz falling on July 4th is a coincidence that happens about every 10 or 20 years.

(Jewish Trivia): The very first Independence Day in 1776 was also the 17th of Tammuz.

The next time this will happen is in 2034, a Tuesday.

So, did the juxtaposition of July 4th and the minor fast day of the 17th of Tammuz mean no (kosher) barbecue for the religiously observant on the 4th?

Since the 17th of Tammuz this year fell out on Shabbat, which is supposed to be joyous (with three mandatory meals), the fast — which lasts from sunrise until nightfall — got postponed until Sunday, July 5th.

(This proved to be dietarily advantageous to those religiously observant patriots who stuffed themselves on the 4th).

Tisha B'Av also falls on a Shabbat (July 25th) this year, so the religiously observant will celebrate Shabbat as usual on that day and begin to fast at sundown, July 25th.

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2014 TBS Board of Directors

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President's Corner

My fellow congregants,

I hope that all of you had a wonderful Independence day holiday and got to see the magnificent fireworks display that our town provides.

It never ceases to amaze me how many people are gathered to participate in these holiday events. The lake fills with millions of dollars worth of watercraft and everyone seems to have a great time. I know that I did.

For those of you who travel during these summer months, I hope your excursions are safe and enjoyable.

Your board is making plans for the high holidays, the end of another year for Temple Beth Shalom and the start of 5776.

Shalom,
Stan Coffield

Temple Beth Shalom on the web www.tbshavasu.org

Sponsors are needed for Oneg Shabat.

Oneg sponsorship requires that you supply refreshments for the congregation
or simply donate \$30.00 to buy the items.



The Roosevelts were Jewish Dutch, arriving in NYC in 1682 (Originally name Claes Rosenvelt before name change to Nicholas Roosevelt) Sarah Delano, FDR's mother, was descended from Sephardic Jews.



Joseph Stalin was originally named Joseph David Djughashvili (translating into "son of a Jew.") All 3 of the women he married were Jewish.



Dwight Eisenhower's father was a Swedish Jew and was so identified in the West Point Yearbook of 1915.

The First Jewish Aviator by Kevin Proffitt

Most Americans know of Orville and Wilbur Wright, the Dayton, Ohio, brothers who in 1903 became the first to fly. Far fewer know of Arthur Welsh, the first Jewish aviator.

Born Laibel Wellcher in Russia in 1881, the young man who would become Arthur Welsh came to this country with his family in 1890. Settling in Philadelphia, Laibel attended public and Hebrew schools there with his five brothers and sisters.

When Laibel was 13 his father died. Several years later his mother remarried and the new family moved to Washington, D.C. After finishing school, Laibel entered the Navy. There he changed his name to Arthur L. Welsh, thinking his given name sounded too Jewish and could cause him problems while in the service. From then on he was known as Al Welsh.

In 1905 Welsh was discharged from the Navy and returned to Washington. While attending meetings of the Young Zionist Union, Welsh met his future wife, Anna Harmel. They were married at Adas Israel Synagogue in 1907. Anna came from a prominent family in the Washington Jewish community. Her father was a member of the Adas Israel Board of Managers as well as a founder of the Hebrew Free Loan Association and the Hebrew Relief Society. Her mother was a founder of the Jewish Foster Home in Washington and, in 1919, was a founding member of Hadassah's Washington chapter.

Welsh became a flying enthusiast after hearing of the Wright Brothers' first flight at Kitty Hawk, North Carolina. He immersed himself in the subject, reading books and intently studying the new field of aviation. In 1909, after traveling to Fort Myer, Virginia to see Orville Wright demonstrate the Wright Military Flyer, Welsh wrote to the Wrights asking if he could join them.

The Wrights turned down Welsh's initial request because he lacked experience. Unwilling to give up, Welsh traveled to Dayton to meet the brothers in person. Concerned about his lack of qualifications but impressed with his determination, Orville and Wilbur hired Welsh to be part of their newly formed flying exhibition program. Working directly with Orville Wright, Welsh learned to fly and in the summer of 1910 became an instructor at the Wright's flying school.

In just a few months Welsh advanced from eager novice to leading aviator in this new and dangerous profession. Quickly becoming a very adept pilot, Welsh performed numerous exhibition flights for the Wrights in 1910 and 1911, establishing many speed and altitude records along the way.

In 1911, while directing a flying school in Long Island, New York, Welsh took on a student named Henry H. (Hap) Arnold. Arnold would later become a five star general in the U.S. Army as well as commanding general of the Army Air Forces during World War II. In his book *Global Mission*, Arnold wrote of Welsh: "He had taught me all he knew, or rather, he had taught me all he could teach. He knew much more." In 1930 Arnold wrote to Welsh's sister, Clara, "The pioneers in the aviation game were the ones who took all the risks and received little in exchange for their daring. Al was one of those pioneers. I admired him very much for the work he was doing, the manner in which he did it, and his personal characteristics."

On June 11, 1912, during an assignment to test a new Wright Brothers military plane design, Welsh and his passenger, Army Lieutenant Leighton W. Hazelhurst, were killed when their plane crashed while attempting a ten-minute flight to carry 450 pounds to a height of 2,000 feet.

Two days later Welsh was buried at Adas Israel's Alabama Street cemetery in Washington, D.C. Orville Wright attended the funeral, only two weeks after the death of his brother, Wilbur, who died of typhoid at 45.

Welsh was survived by his wife and two-year-old daughter. Though a government inquiry ruled that Welsh, as the pilot, caused the crash, according to one family member, Welsh's wife "believed that the War Department pushed too hard for tests that were sure to fail....Not only was Welsh carrying too much of a load, but he also carried his passenger and was expected to climb too quickly and too high when you consider the weight. Too much was expected."

An often forgotten figure even in American Jewish history, Arthur Welsh was a pioneer, an explorer, and a practicing Jew who, like thousands of other East European Jewish immigrants of his era, came to this country and pursued his dreams of success--all the way to the clouds.

Our thanks for donations from the following congregants

Andrea Coffield for her wonderful home made treats
and to Jill Fetz for the DELICIOUS home baked challahs

Schedule of Upcoming services

Friday Evening Shabbat Prayers: July 10- 7:30 PM

Saturday Shabbat Torah Class: July 11- 10 AM

Friday Evening Shabbat Prayers: July 24- 7:30 PM-(led by Stuart Flamm, Rabbi on vacation)

Friday Evening Shabbat Prayers: August 14- 7:30 PM

Saturday Shabbat Torah Class: August 15- 10 AM

Friday Evening Shabbat Prayers: August 28- 7:30 PM

Saturday Shabbat Torah Class: August 29- 10 AM

Friday Evening Shabbat Prayers: September 11- 7:30 PM

Saturday Shabbat Torah Class: September 12- 10 AM

**ROSH HASHANA (begins in the evening of Sunday, September 13 and ends in the evening of Tuesday, September 15) Rosh Hashana Evening Prayers: Sunday, September 13- 7:30 PM
Rosh Hashana Morning Prayers: Monday, September 14- 10 AM**

SHABBAT T'SHUVA Friday Evening Shabbat Prayers: September 18- 7:30 PM

YOM KIPPUR (begins the evening of Tuesday, 9/22, ends the evening of Wednesday, 9/23)

Kol Nidre/Yom Kippur Evening Prayers: Tuesday, September 22- 5:45 PM

Yom Kippur Morning Prayers: Wednesday, September 23- 10 AM

Afternoon Prayers & N'illa (closing) service- Wednesday, September 23- 5 PM

Friday Evening Shabbat Prayers: September 25- 7:30 PM

Saturday Shabbat Torah Class: September 26- 10 AM

SUKKOT (begins the evening of Sunday, 9/27 and ends the evening of Monday, 10/5)

Sukkot Evening Service: Sunday, September 27- 7:30 PM

Our Next Board Meeting will be held Thursday July 30

6:30pm at the Temple.

We will attempt to have ALL board meetings

on the last Thursday of each month

Plan on attending, show your support of TBS Everyone is welcome