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Telford Telescope: The 'Telfordian Era' yet abides!

By Dr. John Telford
SUN COLUMNIST



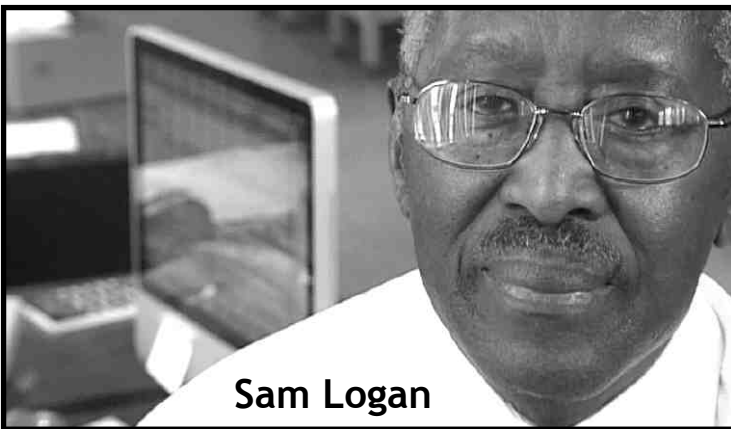
When I told our distinguished Michigan Boxing Commissioner Emeritus Stuart Kirschenbaum that my cautionary April 3 anti-Trump piece in the Michigan Chronicle headlined "Could this 'TRUMPian Tale' really HAPPEN?!" will likely be my final Chronicle

column forever, he said sympathetically, "So sad to see the end of a Telfordian Era."

I responded that while what he calls the 'Telfordian Era' may finally be over in the Chronicle, I reassured him that the 'Telfordian Era' isn't over anywhere else just yet. I thanked him for the eloquent (although fruitless) e-mailed attempt he had made on my behalf to awaken the Chronicle's editor Patrice Massey's and the Chronicle's Republican publisher Hiram Jackson's sleeping sense of responsibility for our intrepid blue-collar Democratic Detroit community, and also hopefully to awaken Ms. Massey's and Mr. Jackson's sleepy unawareness of our defiant blue-collar Detroit history, as courageously chronicled by crusading journalists Al Dunmore and Sam Logan (in Sam's early days), and as reflected in my own many past Chronicle columns. In referring to me as 'living history' and a 'Detroit icon' and assuring those two Chronicle folk that to terminate my columns would be a tragic disservice to their readership and our city, Dr. Kirschenbaum did me a signal honor. Unfortunately, his bluntly truthful words have had no effect whatever on Jackson & Massey, who never published my recent columns touting the then-upcoming and time-sensitive Detroit Track Old-Timers dinner, nor did they publish my column on local education I sent them. We therefore ran that education column in the Detroit Native Sun last month instead. (We had also run columns on the awards dinner in the Native Sun previously as well, so the dinner was well-attended despite Ms. Massey's and Mr. Jackson's failure to run those track-dinner columns as a community service, as I had asked them to do.)

Our schools remain mired in poverty, deprivation, and segregation from years of Jim-Crow overseers and their house-Negro fellow travelers in Lansing and Detroit--

and frighteningly, the criminally psychopathological narcissist Trump sits unlawfully in the White House this very day beside his malevolently addled secretary of miseducation, Betsy DeVos. All of these miscreants have had and still have their foots on our necks, and they pose a clear and present closing and chartering danger to every predominantly black-and-brown-populated public school in Michigan. I am nonetheless hopeful that our Motown community's rebellious spirit will ultimately revive and prevail with or without the support of the Chronicle's Massey & Jackson and their corporate-collusive ilk. Jackson has apparently yielded to higher-up Republican (ReTRUMPican?) pressure to terminate my columns because he may have been wrist-slapped for publishing the 'TRUMPian Tale' piece. That column reappeared nine days later in the Native Sun



Sam Logan

with an illustration of the racist Trump fittingly dressed as a Klansman. Sen. Elizabeth Warren's staff and Congresswoman Brenda Lawrence shared an electronic version of that illustrated column with U.S. legislators. (You can e-mail me for it, too, at DrJohnTelfordEdd@aol.com.)

Luckily for embattled Detroit activism, we have my radio shows on WCHB AM1340 with videotapes of the shows streaming on Detroit internet Television (DETipTV.com) and on my Facebook page, as well as to my thousands of e-mail contacts--and we have my activist columns in this newspaper. We also have Sam Riddle of the National Action Network repeatedly labeling all the bought-and-paid-for house Negroes "handkerchief heads" on 910 AM Superstation, and we have my valiant age-peer Helen Moore striving via Keep-The-Vote-No-Takeover to keep everyone honest and involved. Thus, the 'Telfordian Era' yet abides and indeed is far from over--we will carry on the crusade for our public schools and ALL of our state's schoolchildren until we finally win it.

Former DPS Superintendent John Telford--a one-time WSU All-American sprinter--has written Detroit-oriented books available at Barnes & Noble and on amazon.com (type in Dr. John Telford). He serves currently as the DPSCD Poet-in-Residence. His website is www.AlifeontheRUN.com. Hear his show Saturdays at 9:30 a.m. and Mondays at 6:30 p.m. Contact him at (313) 460-8272.

CAIR condemns Trump's racist 'Go back where they came from' tweets targeting congresswomen

PRNewswire/ -- The Council on American-Islamic Relations (CAIR), the nation's largest Muslim civil rights and advocacy organization, today condemned a series of racist tweets by President Trump targeting female congresswomen.

Trump's tweets last month suggested the congresswomen "go back and help fix the totally broken and crime infested places from which they came. . . You can't leave fast enough."

He did not name his intended targets, but he apparently meant Rep. Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez of New York; Rep. Ayanna Pressley of Massachusetts; Rep. Rashida Tlaib of Michigan; and Rep. Ilhan Omar of Minnesota.

Omar was born in Somalia, while Tlaib was born to Palestinian immigrants in Detroit. Pressley is African-American and was born in Cincinnati. Ocasio-Cortez was born in New York City to a family of Puerto Rican heritage.

SEE: Trump tells Ocasio-Cortez and other female progressives to 'go back' to 'original' countries
<https://www.theguardian.com/us-news/2019/jul/14/trump-squad-tlaib-omar-pressley-ocasio-cortez>

• Trump says progressive congresswomen should 'go back' where 'they came' from
<https://www.nbcnews.com/politics/donald-trump/trump-says-progressive->

[congresswomen-should-go-back-where-they-came-n1029676](https://www.nbcnews.com/politics/donald-trump/trump-says-progressive-congresswomen-should-go-back-where-they-came-n1029676)

"Trump's latest racist tweets echo the bigoted shouts of 'go back where you came from' heard daily by American Muslim women and children, immigrants and members of other minority communities across our nation. It is sad to see the occupant of the Oval Office transition from empowering and encouraging racist taunts to actually using them himself," said CAIR National Executive Director Nihad Awad. "If Trump shouted the same thing at a Muslim woman wearing hijab in a Walmart, he might be arrested."

The Washington-based Muslim civil rights organization has reported an unprecedented spike in bigotry targeting American Muslims, immigrants and members of other minority groups since the election of Donald Trump as president.

• CAIR: Robinson Township Republican Committee chair resigns over Islamophobic Facebook posts
<https://www.post-gazette.com/news/politics-local/2019/07/12/Robinson-Township-Republican-Committee-chair-resigns-over-Islamophobic-Facebook-posts/stories/201907120152>

CAIR is America's largest Muslim civil liberties and advocacy organization. Its mission is to enhance understanding of Islam, protect civil rights, promote justice, and empower American Muslims.

Michigan woman convicted of obstructing the IRS

A federal jury in Flint, Michigan, convicted Gerri Avery this month of engaging in a corrupt endeavor to obstruct and impede the due administration of the internal revenue laws, announced Acting Deputy Assistant Attorney General Stuart M. Goldberg of the Justice Department's Tax Division.

According to court documents and evidence presented at trial, Avery obstructed the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) in its attempts to collect payroll taxes due and owing for Integrated HCS Practice Management (Integrated), a Southfield, Michigan, company, by providing false and misleading information to the IRS Revenue Officer attempting to collect the taxes owed. Integrated, a management services business for healthcare providers, failed to pay payroll taxes due from its employees for the third quarter of 2013, the fourth quarter of 2013, and the first quarter of 2014.

Avery, whose duties at Integrated were central to the business's operations, made statements to the IRS Revenue Officer that attempted to minimize her involvement in and knowledge of the business as well as the involvement of Jo-

seph DeSanto, one of the owners of the business. Avery also told the IRS she did not know how to obtain bank statements and other documents related to the business, despite regularly accessing such records as part of her responsibilities for the company.

In a related case, DeSanto himself has pleaded guilty to failing to collect, truthfully account for, and pay over payroll taxes relating to Integrated and to failure to file his personal tax return for 2013.

United States District Judge Laurie J. Michelson scheduled sentencing for Dec. 4, 2019. Avery faces a maximum of three years in prison and a fine of up to \$250,000, in addition to a term of supervised release and restitution.

Acting Deputy Assistant Attorney General Goldberg thanked special agents of IRS-Criminal Investigation and the FBI, who conducted the investigation, and Tax Division Trial Attorneys Mark McDonald and William Guappone, who are prosecuting the case, and paralegal Eric Mahoney.

Additional information about the Tax Division's enforcement efforts can be found on the Division's website.

Facebook to pay \$5 billion, implement new protections

The Department of Justice, together with the Federal Trade Commission (FTC), announced a settlement that requires Facebook to implement a comprehensive, multi-faceted set of compliance measures designed to improve user privacy and provide additional protections for user information. The settlement also requires Facebook to pay an unprecedented \$5 billion civil penalty.

In a complaint filed, the United States alleges that Facebook violated an administrative order issued by the FTC in 2012 by misleading users about the extent to which third-party application developers could access users' personal information. The complaint further alleges that Facebook violated the Federal Trade Commission Act by deceiving users.

As reflected in the stipulated order filed with the complaint, Facebook has agreed to settle these allegations by paying a \$5 billion civil penalty and implementing robust, new compliance measures that will change how Facebook prioritizes and approaches user privacy issues. These

new compliance measures include appointment of an independent assessor to monitor Facebook's conduct, privacy reviews for Facebook products, establishment of a new Independent Privacy Committee on Facebook's Board of Directors, annual compliance certifications by Facebook CEO Mark Zuckerberg, and various reporting and record-keeping requirements. Under the stipulated order, the Department of Justice and FTC will share responsibility for monitoring and enforcing Facebook's compliance.

"The Department of Justice is committed to protecting consumer data privacy and ensuring that social media companies like Facebook do not mislead individuals about the use of their personal information," said Assistant Attorney General Jody Hunt for the Department of Justice's Civil Division. "This settlement's historic penalty and compliance terms will benefit American consumers, and the Department expects Facebook to treat its privacy obligations with the utmost seriousness."

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